35-1944

Voice of the People

12/2/44 Norfolk Journal and Guide

A White Norfolkian Is Concerned

Editor, Journal and Guide:

This may seem to be a queer letter, but I assure you that a lot of thought has gone into it. I have read about the struggle of the Negro race for a just standard of living. This war has given many people an increase in wages, but as things now stand, at the end of the war most of this will end and the Negro will revert to his status of laborer, truck driver etc., at a low standard of living.

Religion teaches that such is not just; as also do all moral laws. The laws of necessity govern the daily lives of the people. The white people, being in the majority, have the best jobs, and what is left goes to the Negro. This is a law of the fittest or the majority, and all of the talk of the Negro cannot change it.

In a great country like the United States, there should be abundance for all. If this country can produce 150 billions of war goods with 10 million in the Army and Navy, not producing, what couldn't we do under a just economic system. I believe that a great opportunity awaits the Negro race. Why could not they form a society that would advocate a department in the government of the United States whose duties would be to estimate a maximum safe use of our natural resources and advise the public what it would produce in houses, clothing, food, etc. If industry could not put people to work to produce this quota, then the government could put the unemployed to work to produce the balance.

This is a just plan. No religious person who knows about the way the disciples of Christ lived, can deny it.

While the tide of emotions of men, long suppressed, sweep the world, life in the United States will return to its old standard. I do not think this is just. This great country should practice the morals it preaches. It is a great shame that we are a nation of hypocrites.

What do you think? Don't you think that a society such as I have described will appeal to all the people? I am sure that it would appeal to all, especially the Negro, who can look forward to a $10 to $12 a week job, after the war; living piled up in houses, not having a decent home for his wife and children, like I read about in your paper. 12/2/44

Such a powerful society should be governed by a code of morals at every meeting, so that it could not become corrupt, like some labor unions, not daring to bear the ridicule of other white men.

What do you think of my rough plan?

—A WHITE CITIZEN
Norfolk, Va.

Houston Argues in High Court

Afro-American Balt. Md. 11-18-44

WASHINGTON

Under a barrage of questioning, Charles H. Houston, attorney, argued two cases in the Supreme Court today (Tuesday).

He challenged the authority of the lily-white Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen to use bargaining agreements with railroads designed to drive colored firemen out of service.

The first case argued was that of Tom Tunstall of Norfolk, Va., who was employed on October 10, 1941, as a fireman on a passenger run of the Norfolk Southern.

Houston told the court that the Brotherhood refused to represent Tunstall impartially, and in order to obtain the job for one of its members forced the railroad to remove him and put one of its own white members in his place.

A similar case of Bester William Steele of Birmingham, employed as a fireman by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad followed:

As a friend of the court the Department of Justice filed a brief in this the second case last Friday.

The Justice Department supports Houston's contention that the railroad labor act imposes upon the unions the obligation to represent all the workers within the craft without discrimination because of race.

Negroes May Join Radical Forces Says Prof. Frazier

New York AGE 11-25-44

Warning that Negroes may join radical and dissident forces in an effort to improve their lot, if they suffer economic hardships after the war and are not integrated into the community, was voiced Tuesday by Prof. E. Franklin Frazier, head of the sociology department at Howard University. 11-25-44

Reading a paper before the Institute for Religious Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, Broadway and 122nd street, Prof. Frazier said that the integration of the Negro would depend largely on whether the nation's productive machinery after the war was run at full capacity.

5 MESSENGERS HIRED BY WESTERN UNION IN MISS.

JACKSON, Miss.—(ANP)—Five colored messengers have been hired here by Western Union Telegraph Co., the first since World War I.

What's Your Chance to Make a Living?

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 10-7-44

55 Per Cent of Whites Think Your Opportunities Same as Theirs

DENVER — (ANP) — Out of every 100 white Americans, 55 think that colored people have the same chance as white people to make a good living in this country, according to results of a recent nation-wide survey.

The poll, made by the National Opinion Research Center, University of Denver, showed that 42 per cent of the persons questioned feel that colored people do not have the same chance, and 3 per cent are undecided.

When the same question was asked in November, 1943, 47 per cent of whites questioned replied "yes."

College Group Says "No"

Most likely to think that colored and white do have equal economic opportunities are persons in the lower standard-of-living brackets, 67 per cent of whom replied affirmatively to the question.

Most likely to think that the two races do not have an equal chance to make a good living are persons with a college background, only 31 per cent of whom replied "yes."

In the South, 66 per cent of the whites said they believe that colored and white people have the same chance to make a good living, while in all other sections of the country combined, 52 per cent of whites answered "yes."

Standards Differ, Says South

Most comments from the South expressed the basic idea that colored people are inferior and a "good living" for them is to be judged on a different basis from a "good living" for white persons.

A farmer near Greenwood, Miss., replies: "Yes, colored people have the same chance. Their standard of living is lower and they don't need as much."

An OPA ration clerk in Washington, D.C., answers: "Definitely, but in their own sphere."

Replies from the North tended to emphasize colored people's success in war jobs with scattered comments on other points. Typical of many replies from the North is the comment of a Detroit bank president's wife: 'Colored people don't have the same chance for two reasons — race prejudice and inferior capabilities." Others mentioned educational inequalities.

Colored Workers Help Win Army-Navy Award

Tribune — Philadelphia 12-30-44

KELTYS, Tex.—The first southern lumber company to win the coveted Army-Navy E Award this week credited two colored workers with making a major contribution to this achievement.

The workers were identified in a letter to the War Production Board as Theodore Denman and Jesse Howard, carpenters employed by the Angelina County Lumber Company here.

According to officials of the company, Denman and Howard, during 1944, converted 2,500.000, board feet of yellow pine lumber into 100,000 "general-manager type" grain doors used by railroads to hold grain shipments in cars.

Company officials pointed out that the men averaged $10 a day in wages, and that each has purchased his own home in addition to other real estate in the community. One of the workers has four children; two of whom are in grammar school, one in high school, and one recently graduated from high school. The other has five children; one in the Army, one in college, one graduated from high school, one in high school, and one in grammar school. Both Denman and Howard are regular purchasers of War Bonds.

Company officials pointed out that the Angelina County Lumber Company was founded in 1887 and has continued under the same management since.

35-1944

Labor Forum

—By M. MORAN WESTON

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.

"THREE OF A KIND" is a hard combination to beat in poker; and it is hard to get. "Three of a kind" is a hard combination to beat also—when it is made up of Jim Crow, Anti-Semitism and Red-baiting. But it is quite easy to get. All you have to do is pick up one of the combination and you have all three. And herein lies the danger, you never have one without the other. If you know a man who hates the "Reds", talk to him long enough and you will find he hates Negroes; let's talk a little more, he also hates Jews. All three of them are rotten, slimy and stupid—rotten, because they corrupt the foundations of the democracy we seek to build; slimy, because they are always underhand; stupid, because they are always lies spread by someone who has an ax to grind.

10-7-44

Mr. Weston

Anti-Semitism Among Negroes

Right now I am concerned with the anti-Semitic expressions and ideas which keep cropping up in conversations among Negroes. The disturbing fact is, these ideas and expressions seems to be spreading and few seem to realize it. Negroes have a great deal to lose by the spread of anti-Semitism. The fight of the Jews for freedom and equality is part of the fight of Negroes for their full rights. There is a certain kind of white man who has a habit of making anti-Semitic remarks to Negroes and at the same time boasting about how he loves the "colored people." You can bet your bottom dollars that when he is with a Jew he damns you and is the loyal friend of the Jew.

It Works Like This 10-7-44

One of the nasty things about anti-Semitism (or its two partners Jim Crow and Red-baiting), you can have it and not know it. A few days ago, I was talking to a Negro official of an organization noted for its consistent fight against all kinds of intolerance and for real equality of all people. In the course of the conversation, my friend had occasion to make some severe criticisms of the personality and views of one of the top white officials of the organization. He wound up his criticisms with this remark: "You know you can't steal in our organization and if a Jew can't steal he is hard to get along with." I was shocked, to put it mildly. First of all, while I knew of the official under criticism, I did not know he is a Jew. Secondly, my friend I know to be bitterly opposed to all forms of racial, religious or national intolerance. As a matter of fact, he has risked his life several times as he has fought for equality for all people. But there he was, uttering statements which would have done credit to Hitler. When his attention was called to the implication of his remarks, he was most apologetic and denied any anti-Jewish feeling. I believe he was sincere. He had caught a case of anti-Semitism AND DID NOT KNOW IT.

Endangers Organized Labor

One of the best ways to break up the organized labor movement is to split the workers up into groups hating one another. The Negro has been set apart long ago. American fascist big-wigs are working behind the scenes and spending plenty of money to split off the Jew. The Dies Committee and its friends have been giving the Communists a work out for a long time. Next, they will organize a big drive against the Catholics. All in line with Hitler's strategy, divide and conquer. It is no accident anti-Semitism is spreading among thoughtless Negroes. It is part of an organized campaign, the inside story of which is being dragged out in the Sedition Trials in Washington.

10-7-44

The security and welfare of the Negro worker now and after the war is tied up in the future of progressive organized labor. The foes of the Jews are his foes; the foes of labor, the foes of democracy. The Negroes must be vigilant against the creeping paralysis of anti-Semitism. They must fight it as they fight the plague of Jim Crow.

Are Job Opportunities the Same for All Races?

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

3-18-44

Poll Shows 50 Per Cent of Whites, 85 Per Cent of Colored Interviewed Say "No"

DENVER, Col.—(ANP) — Despite increasing protests against job discrimination in this country, 47 per cent of white persons questioned in a recent nation-wide survey said that colored and white people have an equal chance to make a good living in the United States.

Only 12 per cent of colored respondents said that the two races have an equal chance, while 50 per cent of whites and 85 per of the colored persons questioned said that economic opportunities are unequal.

Unequal, Say Majority

The total results show that 53 out of every 100 civilian adults believe these opportunities are un- and 3 are undecided.

This survey was made by the National Opinion Research Center, University of Denver. The question asked was: "Do you think that colored people have the same chance as white people to make a good living in this country?"

Education a Factor

The survey showed that the more education a person has, the more likely he is to believe that colored people do not have equal economic opportunties. The following table shows the total survey results and replies according to educational backgrounds:

3-18-44

	Yes	No	Und.
Total Cross-section	44%	53%	3%
By Education			
High School	43	55	2
College	26	73	1
Less	55	40	5

Southerners Say "Yes"

White people living in the Southern States give a higher "yes" vote than any group included in the survey—60 per cent.

Persons answering "No" to the question were asked for their reason. The largest number attributed unequal economic opportunities to racial prejudice and discrimination.

Other Reasons

Other reasons given were: economic discrimination, unequal educational opportunities, lack of ambition to take advantage of opportunities offered, slavery background a handicap, and racial inferiority.

3-18-44

The survey included 2560 confidential interviews in various geographical section of rich and poor, young and old, Democrats, Republicans and non-voters.

Hot Pot Shots

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

6-2-44

WITH thousands of young Negroes finishing high school courses, a smaller number entering college next fall, and with many more thousands graduating from junior high schools into high schools the big question is: how will the Negro student be absorbed into the industrial life of the nation with regards to a postwar future.

It is true that the Negro finishing high school or college has nothing to worry about from the standpoint of a job and high wages. Defense as well as private industries are hiring without question all available manpower, educated and uneducated, physically fit and those physically handicapped.

Negro young men and women are enjoying employment advantages as never before even though there is plenty of room for improvement. Public utilities are slow to avail themselves of the potential Negro labor pool.

PICTURE CONTRASTS

Banks and similar types of institutions even though woefully short of help still forego the employing of Negroes in reasonable positions.

The somewhat rosy work picture of today with its fabulously high wages can still be contrasted with that of the span of years 1930 to 1937 when skilled Negro workers were forced to do domestic work, when college training made no difference as to the type of job offered, labor, train porter duties and other domestic service.

The best Negro high school graduates could do was maid work, chauffeur and occasionally a fairly good salesmanship job for the graduate who was exception as to temperament and ability.

Unless Negro leadership starts immediately to take stock of present conditions, organize to perpetuate at least some of the emergency gains in Negro employment the stark, lean days of the early and mid-thirties in the twentieth century are bound to return with their bad features intensified.

JOB FOR LEADERS 6-2-44

Negro leaders including ministers and others should concern themselves more with the type of record Negroes are making in industry and in private firms. Negro organizations as the Urban League and similar work agencies cannot stress through conferences, pamphlets and platform the need for more enthusiasm, more production, less absenteeism and cooperation among Negro workers.

MILTON BLEDSOE

Personal conduct, neatness and the desire to want to progress on the job are not to be overlooked.

With more money in circulation than at any time in our history the living conditions of Negro workers should be lifted considerably and this in turn should make a more healthy employe.

Negroes in industry can provide better homes, more sanitary places to live and with the improvement in health (industry cannot meet production goals with sick workers) they can meet any argument made that black people are economic burdens.

MAKE FEPC PERMANENT 6-2-44

Then Negroes must put every effort behind the movement to make FEPC a permanent feature of our government just as the Wagner labor legislation is designed to protect the rights of the laboring man.

Negroes must remember that their day of being coddled is about over. Where some white friends will still champion the cause of justice for Negroes they will measure their efforts by what Negroes do for themselves.

There is no longer the excuse that we are too poor economically to shoulder part of our own responsibilities, contribute to the good of the community and to pay our way in gaining fundamental liberties. 6-2-44

We cannot demand the right of men and play our part like children. We cannot spend dollars for riotous living and luxuries and grudgingly give pennies to help better our conditions.

If we do nothing to help ourselves then we can expect nothing in return. If we foolishly let fine opportunities pass to make our position in this nation more stable then we must pay the piper in decreased earning power and a blackout in industrial employment.

His 17,000 Negro Employees Praises Pennsylvania Railroad, Pres. M. W. Clement Proud Of

Age—New York, N.Y. 4-15-44

PHILADELPHIA, Pa. Approximately 17,000 Negro employees are among those receiving high praise from M. W. Clement, president of the Pennsylvania Railroad, in his annual report for the board of directors of that company. In pointing out the unprecedented demands upon the huge personnel of the Pennsylvania, President Clement said that "never have they met the burden more efficiently and more

courageously."

With the far-flung mechanisms of the company being "operated to a greater capacity than ever before," much of the burden of increased service on the part of the road fell in those brackets in which Negro employment is most concentrated. Especially was this true in the matter of food service and freight, where operating revenues indicated history-making increases in general load.

In the company's dining service, where Negro personnel is dominant, a major portion of an operating revenue increase of $10,641,838 over the 1942 peak was reported by the president. Freight revenues, as a result of "an unprecedented volume" increased by upward of $50,000,000, according to the president's report.

Negro efficiency in these, and approximately 70 other brackets in which employment of that racial group is listed, reached a new high, as included in president Clement's blanket praise of the carrier's workers. In addition to these specific avenues of service, Negro women joined the Pennsylvania's forces in greater numbers during 1943 than at any time in the history of the company. And while few, if any, were added to the freight corps, many replaced men, taken into the armed forces, in the company's diversified services.

And while the Pennsylvania's operating revenues of $997,773,155 for the calendar year, represented an increase in that column of upward of a hundred million dollars over 1942, the company's tax burden of $180,405,491, included an increase of more than fifty-five million dollars over the 1942 assessments. Operating expenses, which went beyond a half billion dollars, also showed upward of a hundred million dollar increase over the 1942 outlay. As a result, and despite the fact that the company did the largest business in its history, according to Mr. Clement's report, the Pennsylvania Railroad's net income for 1943, was "less than in 1942 by some $16,050,309."

In commenting upon the tax burden now carried by the Pennsylvania Railroad and other industrial concerns, the National Association for Negroes in American Industry pointed out, here Thursday, that the 1943 tax load of the Pennsylvania Railroad alone "is more than twice the total 1944 budget of the City Government of Philadelphia, which is set at $89,631,183.51." In emphasizing this, in relation to the total indirect contribution made by the Negro employees of the Pennsylvania as "the largest economic family of Negroes in the world," the Association added:

"The 1943 taxes of the Pennsylvania Railroad would run the entire Public School system of the City of Philadelphia, at its 1944 budget estimate level, for more than four and a half years. As a matter of fact," the Association's research unit pointed out, "the Pennsylvania's 1943 increase in taxes alone is equal to nearly a two-year requirement of the Pennsylvania schools, which expect to spend $32,808,560.37 in 1944."

Unearmarked Contributions

Cautioning that the total contributions of Nergoes to the Nation's war effort must not be estimated "in terms of their ear-marked contributions in either money or blood," but must be sought "in the sometimes difficult folds of enlightened industrial reports" like that of the Pennsylvania's president, the Association said that "American Negroes in double harness with the most highly developed industrial pattern yet known to man, are making unearmarked contributions to democracy which only industry's own history will, tomorrow, reveal."

A Fair Standard Of Living In The Future

A WHITE reader who wishes to remain anonymous writes in our *Voice of The People* column this week on the employment problems Negroes will face after the war.

Our correspondent says that when the war is over "life in the United States will return to its old standard," that the law of the majority will rule and we shall witness a conflict for the survival of the fittest, with Negroes pushed down to a few jobs at the lowest prevailing wages, if they have any jobs at all.

As an effort to prevent this, our correspondent suggests the organization of a "Society," that "would advocate a department in the government of the United States whose duties it would be to estimate a safe use of our natural resources" broken down in terms of "houses, clothes, food, etc," and "if industry could not put people to work to produce the quota, then the government could put people to work to produce the balance."

The observation is in line with what our national leaders are thinking in terms of postwar planning. The federal government is already pledged to returning production to private industry, or private enterprise, with the reservation that where private initiative is inadequate the government will provide aid.

These plans, however, as our correspondent obviously surmises, and as all human experience has shown, will not take care of the equities as far as Negroes are concerned, because of the barriers of race and color which stand between Negroes and a fair chance in life.

We do not believe that we need to form any more societies. What we need is to get behind some, or all, of the organizations, national in scope, that are working on the problem.

Among the organizations that are now exerting themselves to the end that economic democracy will follow the war are:

The National Urban League.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The Southern Regional Council.

The American Council on Race Relations.

The Workers Defense League.

The American Civil Liberties Union.

The National Council of Women.

The Congress of Industrial Organizations.

The National Youth Congress.

The Southern Youth Conference.

The Southern Conference on Human Welfare.

The foregoing list does not include all of the national and regional organizations now devoting their services to the important questions raised by our white friend, but it gives an idea of the universal awareness of the problem.

In most of the states, and localities throughout the states, Negroes will have a voice in the official veterans employment and rehabilitation programs.

STOP LAYING OFF FROM WORK

Absenteeism is wasteful and costly. At this crucial time it is unpatriotic, almost treasonous. The particularly disgusting type of absenteeism is that which results from shiftlessness and lack of appreciation of the virtue of dependability, and lack of appreciation of the importance of any work in these days to the war effort. Almost any job has direct bearing upon the progress of the armies in the field. Workers in nearly every industry within and around our city are doing work essential to furthering the war, and those who wantonly lay-off from work one, two, or three days for no good reason are hindering the country's effort to win the war; are in effect aiding the enemy; are depriving their own son, brother, or husband of the means of saving his own life and the lives of many others.

The industries are complaining that workers often can not be counted to make more than a few days a week, and that as often, they are off on a lark. Some stay off because they believe, mistakenly, that they get even with income tax requirements. This is no time for slowing up production of essential materials just to indulge in a spree. The boys overseas on battle fronts are sacrificing their all, and it is not fair to lay-off from work for frolicking, or for indulging the habit of shiftlessness. Both Negroes and white people are guilty of this inexcusable dereliction of a solemn duty. This thing should stop. The words of General Eisenhower should influence these people to stay on their jobs. He reveals that the armies are now shooting amunition that should not be used till February. Other materials must be reducing at somewhat the same rate. We must stay on the job.

Complaints have been frequently made because our men, and some of our women too, fail to make full time during the week. The retarding of work and producing articles so sorely needed for war purposes are causing a prolongation of the war. The War Man Power Commission is aroused over the situation and is urging as never before those on jobs to be loyal to the government, especially by giving full time each week. It may be informing to know that it requires about fourteen of our men in the industries to produce sufficient supplies for one man on the war front. This thought should cause an urge for redoubled efforts. As loyal Americans, let us do our full part by giving full time.

35-1 :4

Some People No Employer Wants

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

The Negro Worker, published monthly at Tuskegee Institute, Alabama, as a service of the Booker T. Washington Leadership Association, and priced at ten cents per copy, in its July, 1944, issue lists some standards by which Negro workers may measure themselves, which if followed through, should be most helpful in winning a place in the American labor market. 9-20-44

"No employer wants trouble makers. He doesn't want people who keep their eyes on the clock. He doesn't want loud. dirty,mouthed workers. He doesn't want people who have to be watched. He doesn't want people who can't be trusted. He doesn't want people who lie and cheat and steal. He doesn't want people who stay off the job for every litttle thing. And he doesn't want anybody who can't turn out good work."

"Absenteeism may be a big word." said the editor, "but it is one every worker should understand. It means absence from your post of duty—from the place you are supposed to fill at a certain time for wages you receive. Besides being a big word, absenteeism is a great trouble maker. It is a big obstacle in the way of successful production. In simple language absenteeism means you are not at your work when you should be." 9-20-44

Finally, the authors set forth what for the want of a better term, a Worker's Creed: "I will get up on time so that I may get to work on time. I will be in my place when the whistle blows or the bell rings. I will do my job carefully and well. I will keep at peace with those with whom I work. I will try to do my best. I will be patient if things go wrong. I will help wherever I am neeeded. I will remember that my country needs the work which I shall do this day. I will be worthy of the peaceful night that will follow this day—because—I will do my work well for those I love, for my country and for God."

White Workers Quit; Return to Jobs Later

Bystander — Des Moines, Iowa

5-18-44

Dayton, Ohio (ANP)—Forty-seven white workers at the Inland Manufacturing division of General Motors who quit when two Negroes were promoted returned to their jobs within a few days.

The strikers returned to work when warned by CIO union officials that unless they resumed production they would be expelled from the union. With this threat, they returned and the Negroes remained on their new jobs.

The men who walked out were in the department which produces rubber parts for airplane engines, water impellers for invasion craft and diesel engines used in landing craft and tanks.

5-18-44

Transferred

The two Negro workers, James L. Campbell and Austin Taylor, were transferred to production jobs in the department early last week. Max Monroe, comptroller of the division, said that the men had earned promotion and he refused to remove them from their new jobs.

Promotion of the two culminated a long fight by CIO offiicals to place competent Negroes in any of the many vacancies existing, Campbell, who had missed but one day in a year and had worked so much overtime that he had the equivalent of 372 work days in a year, was promoted to operate a machine which Negroes had never before been placed on.

5-18-44

The company had resisted promoting Negroes because the majority of the plant's employees were from Tennessee and Kentucky with others coming from a section of Dayton adjoining Westwood, home site of former members of the Ku Klux Klan.

The two union men who "laid down the law" to the strikers were Harold E. Beck, president of local 87, United Rubber Workers of America, CIO, and Asa Tiller, international union representative.

No Oberlin Haircut Until Barbers Serve Both Races

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

5-20-44

OBERLIN, Ohio—The Rev. Walter M. Horton, white, professor of systematic theology at the Oberlin Graduate School of Theology, on Sunday morning threatened to go without a haircut until he finds a barber shop which caters to a mixed patronage.

Dr. Horton, who was preaching on "Holy Cities" in the First Church in Oberlin (Congregational),said that in the event he tried to obtain service in a biased shop, he would probably encounter the ghosts of Finney, King, and Fairchild, prominent Oberlin liberals, seated in the barber chairs and protesting as the demonstration group had done last week.

Liberal in the Past

The speaker said Oberlin residents at one time were liberal enough to get out a brass band to meet a group of whites who had been released from jail after serving time for freeing a runaway slave from the sheriff who was returning him to his owner.

5-20-44

Dr. Horton asserted that many of the divinity students feel keenly the fact that they are deferred from armed service and that the action in which they participated May 4 was a home-front fight against the same things which are being attacked by the Army and Navy.

If there were to be a shop which still practiced jim-crow methods, he said he would prefer to see it in a back alley. "This is my Holy City," he concluded. "Now I suffer; I hope later to rejoice. Amen."

5-20-44

Co-op Shop Suggested

The Rev. Orville C. Jones, another member of the Oberlin divinity school faculty, on last Tuesday suggested in class that the establishment of an interracial cooperative barber shop in Oberlin might solve the problem.

The purchase of one of the local barber shops, to be run interracially, was suggested in an editorial, entitled "Barber Shop Harmony," which appeared Thursday (May 11) in The Oberlin News-Tribune, town weekly.

THE CRUMP MACHINE

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

The Crump machine is crumbling. This is the only conclusion that can be reached from the events which have recently taken place in Memphis, the city which Crump and his henchmen control.

Crump has ruled Memphis for years through terror and hate. White as well as colored citizens have despised him but in the past have feared him to such an extent that they tolerated his rule rather than face his revengeful "gestapo." 4-15-44

No one dared challenge him until recently when A. Phillip Randolph was invited to speak in Memphis. Then for the first time Crump found that blustering threats didn't work. He couldn't scare Randolph and then because one man showed courage others have followed his example. First Baptist church on Beale street was packed the night Randolph spoke and there were no racial clashes.

We knew there wouldn't be unless they were inspired by Memphis police.

Although Crump issued a hateful blast against Randolph after he left town, for the purpose of alarming Memphis whites and further stirring racial trouble, he misfired.

Memphis white are on to him and are refusing to be taken in by his rabble-rousing. The opinion of intelligent people of the city is best reflected in an editorial which ran in the conservative Memphis Press-Scimitar last week which in roundly condemning Crump and his gang, said, "Let us consider the Randolph meeting and opinions concerning it a closed chapter. Let white and Negro citizens work together as friends to win the war and build a better Memphis in the spirit of the Lord whom they both serve." 4-15-44

Thus the foundation is laid for white and Negroes to work together to break Crump's power. His armor is cracked. With proper courage, it shouldn't be long until it is rendered useless.

Study Shows How Organized Craft Unions Threaten Negro's Job Future

THE HORIZON

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By P. L. PRATTIS

4-22-44

LABOR AND RACE RELATIONS

Informer — Houston, Texas

There is a growing realization that the matter of race relations is fast becoming a part of the labor movement. There was a time when race relations were carried on chiefly by professional and other white collar leadership of both races, while the great mass of toilers with the hands were left out of the race relations picture. Now that is changing. Take this statement from a recent news article: "The CIO committee has sent copies of 'Races of Mankind' to each member of Congress besides mailing it to all members of the armed forces on its mailing lists."

EVEN if Negroes follow Mr. Bibb's advice and improve their public conduct, they are going to be faced with the stiffest challenge since slavery in the effort to sell their labor. There is no easy solution in the areas controlled by organized labor. There is no easy solution of the future. If you think there is, make a bet against

Mr. Bibb's advice and read it one night after dinner. Dr. Northrup is more than a student of labor. He believes in the Negro worker, in his rights, his possibilities. his

yourself, buy Herbert R. North-a-rup's "Organized Labor and the Negro" (Harper & Brothers: $3.50).

4-15-44

aspirations. One reads Dr. Northrup's book with the feeling that the author may have begun his study to find out if the discriminations against the Negro worker were as bad as he had heard. Once he got started, he learned that they are worse. Very little, if anything, has happened during the war period to change the fundamental factors governing Negro employment or lack of employment. If these factors do not yield to change under war conditions, the outlook is very dark indeed once peace has returned.

Mr. Prattis

4-22-44

31 BAR NEGRO

AS of this year of our Lord one thousand, nine hundred and forty-four, Dr. Northrup finds that there are 31 national unions which discriminate against Negro workers. At least 14 of these unions specifically exclude Negroes from membership by provisions to that effect in either their constitutions or rituals. Important to the Negro among these latter are: the International Association of Machinists, the Railroad Telegraphers, the Railway Mail Association, the Switchmen, all AFL affiliates, and the Locomotive Engineers, the Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the Railroad Trainmen, and the Railway Conductors, the independent railway brotherhoods.

Eight unions—six AFL affiliates, the Flint Glass Workers, the Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the Plumbers and Steamfitters, the Asbestos Workers, Heat and Frost Insulators, the Granite Cutters, and the Seafarers, and two independent unions, the Marine Firemen and the Brotherhood of Railroad Shop Crafts—usually refuse admittance to Negroes by tacit consent.

Nine others — the Boilermakers Iron Shipbuilders, Welders and Helpers, the Railway and Steamship Clerks, Freight Handlers, Express and Station Employees, the Railway Carmen, the Maintenance of Way Employees, the Blacksmiths, Drop Forgers and Helpers, the Sheet Metal Workers, the Federation of Rural Letter Carriers, the Rural Letter Carriers' Association and the American Federation of Railroad Workers—permit Negroes to join and give them the privilege of paying dues, but limit their participation to jim-crow auxiliary bodies which in one way or another prohibit them from having a voice in the affairs of the union, from negotiating their own agreements, or from having an opportunity to advance in the occupational hierarchy. All but the last two of these organizations are likewise AFL affiliates.

POSITION PRECARIOUS

4-22-44

DR. NORTHRUP, of course, does more than expose the unions guilty of bold, blanket discrimination. His study covers the Negro worker in the building trades, on the railroads, in the tobacco industry, in textiles, clothing and laundries, longshoremen, in the coal mines, in iron and steel, in automobiles and aircraft, and in shipbuilding. In all these fields, he discovered most of the resistance to Negro workers in AFL and independent unions and most protection given the Negro worker in CIO and so-called radical unions. But, even so, the Negro's position is precarious. The Negro worker is losing ground in the building trades, on the railroads, in the tobacco industry. He has little or no stake in textiles, but does better in clothing and laundries. As a longshoreman, the Negro gets about an even break in a bad work field. Machines threaten his "hand-loading" dominance in the coal mines. Seniority and a glutted post-war labor market obstruct his future in iron and steel, in automobiles and aircraft and in shipbuilding. No matter from which direction you look at the crystal ball, the future of the Negro in the organized labor field appears dismal.

Dr. Northrup thinks that something should be done now to insure a job for the Negro American in the future. He believes that unions affect public policy so basically that they should be under some form of public control. He believes that the national officers of the CIO have shown vision and courage, but even they must have help. He emphasizes that the Negro worker must take a more active part in the union's work and support his friends in union labor's ranks. With that we can all agree.

States Rights, War Needs Clash In S.C.

World — Memphis, Tenn.

9-12-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(ANP) — A drastic cut in the requirements of the armed forces for cotton goods by the War Production Board has been necessary because of the falling off of production due to "labor shortages" in the textile industry, according to an announcement of the War Manpower Commission last week.

The War Department has expressed "concern" about the shortage of cotton duck, and the item was put on the national production urgency list on August 2.

But the "labor shortage" is not real. It is due to the refusal of the textile industry to use Negroes in skilled capacities.

INDUSTRY IN STATE

Much of the cotton textile industry has been moved to the South in recent years; a large part of it is located in South Carolina.

9-12-44

South Carolina has a statute forbidding whites and Negroes working in the same room. Exceptions are made of charwomen, janitors, carpenters and mechanics. The former are to allow Negroes to do the cleaning, the latter to permit white men to make repairs in rooms where Negroes may, on occasion, be hired.

Despite its regulations for full labor utilization, the War Manpower Commission has refused to face the issue. It has winked at the failure to use the local labor supply and approved applications for housing of in-migrant white workers in textile manufacturing centers in South Carolina and elsewhere, requiring the use of critical materials and labor for war-housing construction.

CAN'T GET PRIORITIES

But employers in South Carolina claim they cannot get priorities from the WPB to build separate facilities for Negro workers as required by South Carolina law.

Now, 250,000 workers are needed by November 1 to prevent a dangerous slump in cotton textile production.

9-12-44

But the needs of our fighting men will go unfilled because the federal agencies involved fear the wrath of the Republican-Southern Democrat "States rights" coalition in Congress.

As between maintaining South Carolina's "white supremacy" laws and winning the war, the choice is politics.

Public Opinion Is Divided Regarding Economic Opportunities for Negroes

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

10-6-44

DENVER.—(ANP)—Out of every 100 white Americans, 55 think that Negroes have the same chance as white people to make a good living in this country, according to nation-wide survey results just released by the National Opinion Research center, University of Denver.

Forty-two per cent feel that Negroes do **NOT** have the same chance, and three per cent are undecided.

NORC asked this question of white Americans in every walk of life in cities, towns, and rural areas from New York to California:

"Do you think Negroes have the same chance as white people to make a good living in this country?"

10-6-44

YES	55%
NO	42
UNDECIDED	3
	100%

Most likely to think that Negroes and whites do have equal economic opportunities are persons in the lower standard-of-living brackets, 67 per cent of whom reply affirmatively to the question.

Most likely to think that Negroes and whites do **NOT** have an equal chance to make a good living are persons with a college background, only 31 per cent of whom reply "Yes."

In the South, 66 per cent of the whites say they believe that Negroes have the same chance as white people to make a good living. In all other sections of the country combined, 52 per cent of whites answer "Yes."

YES, NEGROES HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE

10-6-44

Most comments from the South express the basic idea that Negroes are inferior and a "good living" for a Negro is to be judged on a different basis from a "good living" for a white person. A farmer near Greenwood, Miss., replies: "Yes, Negroes have the same chance. Their standard of living is lower and they don't need as much."

An OPA ration clerk in Washington, D. C., answers: "Definitely, but in their own sphere." Others suggest: "If they will do what we tell them to . . . But they haven't got sense enough to take care of their money . . . But most of them have been raised in poor sections, and they just keep on living like that."

Replies from the North tend to emphasize Negroes' success in war jobs with scattered comments on their points. The proprietor of a small pastry shop in New York city says: "They are making a darn good living now in war jobs." An Ohio bank cashier replies: "Now, most companies are employing them at the same wages." A Brooklyn girl, employed in a cleaning establishment, remarks: "Yes, now. Because of the unions, they sometimes get the same pay."

Other viewpoints expressed included: "I imagine Negroes have the same chance, but we take unfair advantage of their race . . . Most I've seen seem to have cars and fur coats . . . They can't get the best jobs, but they can find work . . . They have a better opportunity in the lower brackets than the whites do."

10-6-44

NO, NEGROES DO NOT HAVE AN EQUAL CHANCE

From the South come remarks such as these: "A Negro has the same chance as a poor white man" (Farmer, near Richburg, S. C.) and "Not quite, but it's better than it used to be." (Filling station manager, W. Va.).

Typical of many replies from the North is the comment of a Detroit bank president's wife: "Negroes don't have the same chance for two reasons—race prejudice and inferior capabilities." Others mention educational inequalities: "Because Negroes don't have the same education . . . Because until recently Negroes haven't been qualified for many kinds of jobs."

Specific economic prejudice is emphasized in reactions such as these:

"I couldn't hire a Negro. People wouldn't come in here." (Manager of shoe store, Brooklyn).

I don't think Negroes have an equal chance. They aren't employed in many places. More are hired as janitors or in other low jobs." (Wife of a trucker, Oregon).

"You see it here. There are a lot of southern hillbillies in the plant who have a fit when the CIO says 'No discrimination.'" (Factory worker, East Chicago, Ind.)

10-6-44

TREND-COMPARISON

When the same question was asked in November, 1943, 47 per cent of whites questioned replied "Yes" in comparison with 55 per cent on the present survey. Possibly this difference may be due to increased publicity given situations regarding Negro-white economic relations — strikes over upgrading Negroes, the enforcement of the rulings of the FEPC, and others.

This scientific survey by the National Opinion Research center sampled a typical proportion—in each geographical section—of rich and poor, young and old, men and women, and residents of urban, town, and rural areas.

35-1944

General

Negro Workers Found Satisfactory

The Plain Dealer-Kansas City, Kan.

The above is the caption of a brief news item which appeared in a leading daily not many days ago, and from it some rather encouraging observations may be set down here 3-3-44

I

The item had to do with a report by the National Urban League on a survey which it had made to determine the employment prospects for Negroes after the war. The survey had included three hundred industrial plants in all sections of the country in which Negroes are employed, the primary purpose being to ascertain as far as the survey could indicate the degree and extent of the satisfactory work performance by members of the race. Of the plants answering the query on the work performance two hundred fifteen reported that their Negro employees were satisfactory: fifty said that they were fairly satisfactory; nine declared them to be inferior to white workers. This report on so important a matter to the economic welfare of the entire population could have had wider publicity than it did. Education on this matter is a wide spread need because propaganda has done misleading work on a large scale to the detriment of the Negro. Perhaps millions of white people would have a different attitude on this as on other matters affecting the Negro if they had the proper information. It must be encouraging, however, that the report did get notice in some of the white dailies, among them being the Chicago Sun.

II

It is a notorious fact that the stock objection raised against the employment of Negroes in many of the large industrial plants is that they give inferior service. As a consequence of inferior service they should not by their presence cause conflict and disharmony in the plants. With many these charges are mere substerfuges to practice discrimination against a minority group of the nation's best workers and citizens. Others can and perhaps do work themselves into believing that the objection has some reasonable foundation. All can see that such charges are not supported by surveys like the one here referred to. Of the three hundred plants answering the query ONLY NINE said that Negroes were inferior to whites. Closer investigation would likely show that if they were inferior to some whites they might be superior to others. Where a large number of men are employed it is not strange that some would be more satisfactory in skill and production than others, but this graduation in skill and production could obtain without regard to color or race. Even white workers are not all of the same grade in skill and satisfaction in performance. 3-3-44

III

Progress is registered by the fact that in many industrial plants the door is open to laborers without regard to race, color or creed. It is further indicated by the fact that there is a degree of fairness in evaluating the performance of the workers without ...cial bias. What the Negro worker wants is not symp... nor charity, but a chance to give honest and effici... r for fair wages. It may be well also to suggest that ... workers will not in large numbers offer their color a... work sought, nor will they always ... son for being fired when the work is ... to the standard.

NEGRO LABOR NEEDS EDUCATION, LEGISLATION

Informer Houston, Tex

Negroes and fair-minded whites are both greatly divided in their opinions of how much buttressing the FEPC will need to become effective, even if it is made statutory. William Hard's article "Blacks and Whites Can Work Together" which appears in the March issue of the Readers Digest reviews Fortune Magazine's poll of 102 important industrial firms as to their experiences with Negroes which revealed that while 12 firms said Negroes were inferior, 85 said that they were equal to whites, and five said that they were superior.

The National Urban League's survey of 300 war plants revealed that 215 officials said they were satisfied with Negroes' work, nine said they were not as good as white workers, and in 50 plants Negroes were described as fairly satisfactory. The league survey revealed a relatively high rate of absenteeism among Negro workers.

Mr. Hard suggested that the soundest cure for race riots is mutual acquaintanceship between races in work. He pointed also to the fact that some employers who have been noticeably adventurous in trying new production and sales methods, have shown great timidity in the field of human relations. He feels that the FEPC even as a statute cannot be effectively enforced until people have been educated to see that whites and blacks actually can work together, and that in the post war world we are going to need all of the working energy that we can assemble.

Negroes Must Measure Up 3-11-44

While The Informer papers are heartily anxious for statutory provisions for a permanent FEFC, they continuously point to the obligation of the Negro worker to do his work well, perhaps better than the average, to be courteous, and to studiously avoid the tendency to be absent from and late to work. No legislation can make an employer want to keep a worker who is lax in his work habits. Negroes want a chance to earn a living, and should not expect work that is not commensurate, one way or the other, with their mental and physical abilities. While we are seeking to get proper legislation to protect us from bias and injustice, we can do much to educate employers and fellow employees to see that we can measure up.

8-3-44

Negro Labor Is

The Worker New York

By JAMES W. FORD

Breaking the Barriers

James W. Ford reviews the splendid struggle Negro unionists conducted over the years for their rightful place in labor's ranks.

DURING the last World War hundreds of thousands of Negroes were drawn into American industry. They acquired a burning desire for trade unionism. They wanted to be organized. They wanted recognized trade union rights and conditions. They wanted equal pay for equal work and security in their jobs. They wanted economic, social and political advancement. They wanted sincere friends and allies. They wanted to take their share in advancing democracy in the country of which the labor movement was truly a noble expression. In the days following the war there were many discouraging moments in Negro-labor relations.

In November, 1927, I arose in the assembly hall of the Chiiago Federation of Labor to make an address on organizing Negro workers into trade unions. Before I had proceeded very far I was rudely interrupted and threatened with ejection for raising this question so sharply before that august body of trade unionists.

UAW Leader Sheldon Tappes

A spokesman of a group of white progressive trade unionists took the floor and defended my right to continue my remarks and rebuked the die-hard conservative labor leaders in their lack of serious attention to this problem.

Dismissed From Federation

Subsequently, however, the Hearst press, assisted by the conservative labor leaders, lambasted me as a "red" agitator, and finally I was dismissed from the Chicago Federation of Labor in which I was a representative of the Postal Workers Union of that city.

Heretofore the general run of white workers had been led to believe that Negroes were not ripe for trade union organization. The trade unions had been almost the exclusive property of white workers.

But the trade union movement which arose in the ranks of labor scores of years ago, despite the ideology of race prejudice and exclusiveness which permeated its ranks, was based upon the sound principle of fraternity and unity of all workers irrespective of race, religion or national origin. These are not mere words of a high-sounding wish. The trade unions are linked with the interests of the entire nation against those who would destroy democratic rights and deny civil liberties to any citizen. The trade unions have lifted the living conditions and outlook of millions of workers. The achievements of the trade unions have endeared the labor movement to Negroes and created respect among them for it and hopefulness for their future. 8-3-44

There is no doubt whatever that there is a fundamental difference in policy of the trade unions toward Negro workers today. Provocations against Negro-white unity or such incidents as the one which happened in the Chicago Federation of Labor in 1927 do not succeed in the trade unions today. Philadelphia has a small clique of fascist-minded individuals. But they do not represent the countenance of the trade unions. These individuals staked their hope on the ideology of racism to disrupt the war and to drive a wedge between white and Negro workers. But they failed.

They see that all the decisive forces of history are working together with labor for Negro equality and the end of reaction.

Proof of this is the fact that labor is mobilizing all of its resources and all of its people at this most decisive stage of the war to speed up the military debacle of Hitler Germany and her vassals.

There are nearly one million Negro workers among the 12,000,000 workers organized into trade unions in America. Trade unions have conducted a struggle to guarantee job opportunity for Negroes in industry and have succeeded in establishing this policy as a basic policy of the labor movement. The protection of Negro workers in their right to work and at jobs of all skills and trades with equal pay for equal work has caused a basic change in the economic position of the entire Negro people.

Barriers against Negro workers in the trade unions have been broken down in thousands of trade unions throughout the nation. Negro trade union leaders have achieved positions of high responsibility and authority. Ferdinand Smith is national secretary-treasurer of the powerful Maritime Union. This union, an affiliate of the CIO, under the leadership of Joseph Curran has been outstanding in achieving equal working conditions for Negro workers in that industry.

The National Maritime Union was responsible largely for placing Captain Mulzac in command of an American Merchant Marine ship, and other Negroes have been raised to similar status and to all technical trades in the Merchant Marine.

Anti-Discrimination Clause in Contract

Important new gains were made in the fight against discrimination by the National Maritime Union in July when it negotiated a contract with 23 shipping companies, all affiliates of the American Merchant Marine, which included a clause that provided that there shall be no discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin. 8-3-44

The United Automobile Workers, CIO, has made notable achievements in equal conditions for Negro workers in the automobile industry. Sheldon Tappes, Negro recording secretary of Local 600, UAW, has been regularly elected and reelected to that office unopposed.

The Congress of Industrial Organization from its very inception established the policy of equal rights for Negro workers in the unions. That policy has penetrated into larger sections of the labor movement, including headway in the AFL.

Today Negro intellectuals and professional classes recognize in the trade union movement the strongest ally the Negro people have. Many of them are performing yeoman service in bringing about closer relations between the Negro people and the labor movement.

JAMES W. FORD

This new Negro-labor relation which has reached a higher level than ever before in the history of the country, has been accelerated by the labor policy of the Roosevelt administration and full collaboration between the administration and the trade unions in breaking down discrimination and Jim Crow.

The Task Ahead for All of Labor

The hands of the Commander-in-Chief must be upheld and his reelection assured. A great job still remains to win the Negro people in full support of the President. This job can and must be done by the progressive forces among the Negro people and in the first place the Negro trade unionists. They must join with the intellectual and professional classes among the Negro people to do this big job.

Negro-labor relations have been established on a fundamental and sound basis. There cannot be any going back to the past. There are many burning problems for the nation, for labor and for the Negro people that are coming up for solution as the war closes.

CIO FINALLY WINS

U. S. Decision On Battle At Hughes Vindicates Informer

Informer—Houston, Texas

By CARTER WESLEY

9-23-44

HOUSTON — In a joint session of the Hughes Tool officials, the CIO representatives, and representatives of the federal government, the CIO was at last given full and complete exercise of the bargaining rights at Hughes Tool company. The officials were ordered to cease all negotiations, actions and recognition of the Independent union and were told to grant maintenance of membership as well as the check-off to the CIO union exclusively. Thus it took the government to confirm in the CIO the right they won in the election months ago.

Since the government officials told the Hughes Tool representatives that all of these recommendations must go into effect as of April 6, the date of the expiration of the contract with the CIO, and the date from which the War Labor Board ordered the extension of the contract, it would seem to indicate clearly that there will be no election at Hughes Tool company. This is doubly emphasized by the further statement of the government representatives that they are carrying out the recommendations of the War Labor Board, and the War Labor Board is known to have refused an election at Hughes Tool company. It is generally believed that the officials of the company looked forward to the government's taking over, in the hope that an election would be granted here as was granted when Montgomery Ward was taken over some months ago in Chicago.

9-23-44

Informer Vindicated

Thus again are the reporting and predictions of The Informer vindicated. Neither in the daily papers nor in the so-called labor spokesman, the Houston Negro Labor News, have the people generally been able to get a fair report or interpretation of the principles underlying the clashes at Hughes Tool Only The Informer has said from the beginning that the CIO had the exclusive bargaining right and that the company was dickering with and using the Independent union as a weapon to keep from complying with the election which the CIO won. Time after time the other papers of this community have reported the happenings at Hughes Tool to make it appear that the CIO was wrong and that the Independent union and the company were the victims of some sort of rough tactics by the CIO. The editor of the Houston Negro Labor News has not hesitated to call this writer a Communist, because we did not fear to tell the people what were the facts about the difference obtaining between the CIO, the company and the Independent union.

9-23-44

It is a sad commentary upon the faithfulness of newspapers, when the people have to be rudely jarred into the facts by government seizure and blunt announcement of decisions by representatives of the government. Neither does it enhance the standing of the press when a so-called labor paper is so biased that it goes against truth and the best interests of labor to help an employer violate the law in the implications of an honest election. The Informer is not bragging, but it certainly is pertinent to point out that throughout the whole infernal wrangle it has told its readers week after week that the company was improperly and illegally granting privileges to the Independent union, and either curtailing or trying to hamstring the bargaining rights of the CIO. We are not too modest to admit that it is a matter of pride to find the facts that we have reported to our readers again confirmed by the government. (The readers will remember that after being vilified for three years by the representatives of the Independent union and the Houston Labor News, for saying that the Independent union was a company union, we were confirmed when the Trial Examiner came in and publicly found that it was a company union). So far in reporting the matter to our readers we have scored two out of two.

9-23-44

Misuse Of Power

Monday the Grievance committee of the CIO was conferring with the company over the pay of preheat employees. The issue was that the company was paying 80 1-2c to 86c an hour to Negroes in the preheat department, a job for which the wage rate already had been established by the company of $1.11 in the same department for the same work, only the company was refusing to pay the Negroes who were doing the work the wages that had been established in the work for whites. Everybody knows that this is not right and except that the facts are right there to be seen, it would be hard to believe that a company as well established as the Hughes Tool Company would do such a thing. These and many similar grievances are the kind that the CIO has had to contend with, and in too many instances the Independent union has sniped from the side and connived with the company to prevent the Grievance committee from settling these matters fairly. Then if they got any success in their attempt to defeat the committee, to use that as an argument to keep members of the CIO from being contented and to prevent others from joining.

9-28-44

Speaking of the question of misusing power, it has always been our position that many of the leaders among the Negroes at Hughes Tool have used their power to ingratiate themselves with the company officials and to maintain a company union to the disadvantage of the men. Some of these men are outstanding in the community and ought to be ashamed of themselves for the way they have misused the power that they have, because of the confidence many men have had in them. For a little prestige, and in some instances for a little more pay, they have arrayed themselves against the promotion of men and against the upgrading of pay for men and tried to keep the men satisfied with little wages. This is the type of leadership that the community must increasingly learn to condemn, if we are ever to grow up as a race.

It is fair to say that the Houston Negro Labor News and its editor, C. W. Rice, have done the Negroes at Hughes Tool a disservice over the years. For the Labor News and Mr. Rice have thrown themselves solidly in favor of the Independent union and the company union, and have attempted to oppose every effort that has been made to free the men from the yoke of a company-dominated union. It is not a light matter that a paper purporting to represent labor has stigmatized the CIO as Communist, and has tried to discredit the leadership of that union with the masses of people, in order to prevent their gaining improvement for the men. Neither can it be dismissed on the theory that it was merely a difference of opinion between independent people. For a labor paper and its editor are charged with knowing the facts in a situation and cannot be presumed to be ignorant of the underlying facts and motives. 9-23-44

It must be assumed that Mr. Rice knew the facts which made the original Independent union a company union, and that the whole time he was telling the public that it was not a company union he was doing it with his tongue in his teeth, knowing that he was preventing the men at Hughes Tool from getting the improvement that they deserved. It must also be presumed that Mr. Rice knew that under the law the CIO was the sole bargaining agent for the men at Hughes Tool, once they won the election. So the epithets, the misrepresentations, and other allegations contrary to the facts must have been done with a motive and with a purpose. In this connection, it is significant that the so-called labor paper, the Houston Negro Labor News, has never been found to be on the side of the working people in any clash between employer and workers. It is time that the people in the community took note of this fact and began to exact honest reporting as a part of true freedom of the press.

This Firm Has Solved Work Bias

People's Voice
New York, N. Y.
4-22-44

CHICAGO. — Abraham Rubin, vice-president of the National Smelting Co. of Cleveland, recently proved himself a real anti-fascist, pro-labor employer, in his fight against racial discrimination and by giving Negroes full equality in job opportunities and upgrading at his 100 per cent war plant.

At his war plant which employs 1,400 Negro and white workers, Negroes work as foremen supervising white workers; white and Negro workers take training courses in skilled trades side by side; the chairman of the executive shop committee is a Negro and the plant physician is a prominent Negro doctor. Negroes are active in all sports around the plant. 4-22-44

Declaring that he is eager to see mixed teams in the major leagues, and segregation abolished from the armed forces, Rubin believes that such changes would aid in bringing about an early end of the war. Rubin, a thorough pro-unionist, insists that a bulwark against fascism.

His workers are 100 per cent organized by the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers union, CIO. Union leaders and plant executives serve on a labor management committee, which actively promotes employee health and welfare, athletic programs, safety measures against industrial accidents.

35a-1944

U.S. British Groups Ask ILO for Colonial Fairness

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

Philadelphia Session Hears Plea for Higher Standards; Wage Bias in Canal Zone Charged

5-6-44

PHILADELPHIA

Several American and British organizations interested in the welfare of African and other colonial workers have submitted recommendations in their behalf to the International Labor Organizations, whose annual conference is now in session here.

Their proposals coincided with charges voiced at the conference to the effect that the U.S. Government is violating the equal-pay principle among workers building fortifications in the Canal Zone.

Diogenes De LaRosa, government delegate from Panama, gave as an example the $1.05-an-hour wage paid to white chauffeurs while non-whites, including many Latin-Americans, receive only 75 cents.

Stronger Stand Urged

While endorsing most of the ILO recommendations for minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories, the Council on African Affairs, New York; and the Anti-Slavery and Aborigines Protection Society and the Fabian Colonial Bureau, both of London, suggest further steps to implement the ILO program.

The Council on African Affairs, headed by Paul Robeson and Max Yergan, asked the committee to give special attention to those articles aimed at the correction of some of the most fundamental grievance and hardships of African workers.

5-6-44

These articles deal with adequate remuneration, provisions for minimum wage agreements, protection of native land and crops; health, nutrition, and housing, prohibition of color and religious bars; and trade union organization and collective bargaining.

Representation Asked

Further proposals call for colonial representation in the International Labor Office and formation of a standing committee to observe and report on the extent to which professed policies are being carried out.

The Fabrian Colonial Bureau sought strengthening of the ILO recommendations on forced or compulsory labor minimum wages, protection against usury, nutrition, workmen's compensation, hours of work and prohibition of color and religious bars.

U.S. Job Agency
Defender—Chicago

Places 641,931 Negro Workers

Chicago Defender-Ill.

12-9-44

WASHINGTON. — A total of 641,931 non-white workers was placed in non-agricultural jobs by the United States Employment Service between July 1 and September 30, 1944, the reports and analysis service of the War Manpower Commission revealed this week.

These non-white placements represented 18.2 per cent of total placements, and an increase of 388.8 per cent over non-white placements during a similar period in 1943.

Although unskilled and service jobs accounted for 572,184 of the July-September placements of non-white workers, the number of skilled and semi-skilled non-white placements increased 38.1 per cent and 44 per cent, respectively, over the 1943 period.

During the 1944 period, 15,943 non-whites were placed in skilled jobs, and 47,289 in semi-skilled jobs.

12-9-44

A total of 6,041 non-whites was placed in clerical and sales positions, and 483 in professional and managerial positions.

35a-1944

Office Workers' Union Raps Bias

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

Aid to Nation Cited in FDR's Message

FEPC ENDORSED

To Raise $50,000 for Re-Election

4-16-44

PHILADELPHIA

Racial discrimination was flayed by the United Office and Professional Workers of America, CIO, in a resolution passed on Friday during the closing session of a five-day convention at the Bellvue-Stratford Hotel.

President Roosevelt lauded the UOPWA delegates, who represent over 55,000 insurance, financial, publishing, social service and white collar employees from thirty-one States, in a message read on Monday.

Declaring that war was not needed to prove that the national well-being depends on men and women in offices as well as those in factories and farms, he said: "Office workers, with other Americans, have done excellently the jobs for victory."

Fascism in Discrimination

In the resolution the workers declared discrimination because of religion, color, race or political belief to be essentially pro-fascist and a violation of our constitutional rights, adding that the seeds of fascism can be found particularly in anti-Semitism and anti-race discrimination.

"Such discrimination," it added, "destroys national unity, gives tangible assistance to the enemy, prolongs the war, endangers the security of the armed forces and the home front, and jeopardizes the future of democracy."

In addition to condemning such discrimination, the UOPWA endorsed continuation of the FEPC, and urged full post-war employment opportunities for colored people and members of all minority groups. 9-16-44

To Raise $50,000 for PAC

The delegates voted on Wednesday to raise $50,000 through voluntary contributions for an office and professional committee to work with the National Citizens' Political Action Committee for the re-election of President Roosevelt.

Abolition of the poll tax and the passage of the Kilgore Reconversion Bill were recommended by the conference.

Other Leaders Greet Body

Greetings to the conference were also sent by Wendell Willkie, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace and Joseph Curran, CIO vice-president and National Maritime Union head.

Among the colored delegates were Mrs. Mary White of Pittsburgh, Mrs. Minnie Blakewell of Washington, Miss Esther Ogden of New York, Mrs. Cecil Boykins of Detroit, A. E. Holt of Newark, N.J., and A. Bowen of New York City.

Lillian Hunter Consultant on N.Y. Commission

NEW YORK—Irving M. Ives, chairman of Gov. Thomas E. Dewey's New York State Commission Against Discrimination, this week announced the appointment of Mrs. Lillian S. Hunter as public relations consultant.

The commission is mapping recommendations for submission to the New York State Legislature next February to remedy discriminatory employment practices based on race, color, religion and national origin.

The commission was named by the governor to recommend legislation for a permanent State Fair Employment Practices Commission. It has been busy in its several meetings to date studying laws of the United States and of other countries, on discriminaiton in employment as a basis for its February recommendations to the legislature.

LABOR HONORS A. P. RANDOLPH

Guardian—Boston, Mass.
5-13-44

NEW YORK (C)—A Phillip Randolph, told a packed Carnegie Hall at the concert forum at which he was honored, that the Labor Movement offered the greatest hope and freedom to Colored Americans.

"The AFL and the CIO are cleansing the soul of labor of the sin of racial and religious prejudice" he forcefully said.

The occasion was the presentation of the David L. Glendenin Award to Mr. Randolph for his distinguished services to labor. 5-13-44

Concluding his speech, Randolph said: "Labor should lead the gathering crusade against the friction and fallacy of the master race doctrine. Everybody knows that Nazlism, fascism, Nipponism have destroyed and wrecked the trade unions and enslaved the workers in Germany, Italy and Japan. Thus, in defense and to extend the boundaries of the influence and power of the trade union movemnt. labor must wage war against anti - Semitism, anti-Catholicism and Jim-Crowism." 5-13-44

Jim Crow In USES

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
9-23-44

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has called the attention of the War Manpower Commission to the widespread color discrimination practiced by the United States Employment Service.

In Columbus, Ga., it says, colored people applying for jobs are not permitted to enter the front door of the USES office there, but must go through a back alley.

In Washington, D. C., it charges, virtually the same situation obtains within a stone's throw of the White House where plans for a bright new world are being worked out.

Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower Commission, admits that this discrimination against Negroes exists, but is apparently unable to do anything about it because the appropriations committee of the House of Representatives will not give any money for the employment service unless white and Negro applicants are segregated.

This situation is a sad commentary on democracy in the United States at a time when this Nation's Government is talking about re-educating the Axis nations after their defeat and saving the whole world for democracy.

Certainly it is difficult to understand how a country which is trying to make the whole world free, can permit the very opposite of freedom to exist right on its doorstep.

It is ironic that Government officials have to admit that in the midst of a war allegedly for democracy they cannot stop color discrimination here.

President Roosevelt could at least take time out to condemn this vicious practice and to insist that Congress halt it, but no word has come from the White House either for or against.

The Administration makes much of the fact that during the depression it provided relief and made work for unemployed Negroes, but colored people today are less interested in history than they are in present practices, especially when the question of post-war employment is uppermost in everyone's mind.

In the post-war period the United States Employment Service will be one of the most important Governmental bureaus, what with millions of colored and white workers seeking jobs.

The Administration should act now to end discriminatory practices before the war ends, because failure to do so may lead to dire consequences. 9-23-44

Those who have helped to win the war at home and abroad will not be satisfied to be pushed around when peace comes.

First Negro Appointed To State Industrial Body

People's Voice—New York, N. Y.
7-1-44

Presented with an opportunity to select its first representative on the State Industrial Commission, the New York State Industrial Union Council-CIO, last week chose a Negro for the post. Noah Walters, co-manager, Laundry Workers Joint Board of Greater New York, selected by the CIO, was appointed by Governor Thomas E. Dewey for the post, which carries a salary of $8,500.

Walters is the first Negro as well as the first CIO representative to join the Commission.

The Commission is composed of labor, management, and public representatives and hears appeals in workmen's compensation disputes. Walters' term of office will run six years. In an interview at headquarters of the Joint Board, Walters said, "I want it clearly understood that the acceptance of this position is in no way of a political nature. I feel greatly honored to have the privilege to serve the state of New York as a representative of millions of CIO members."

CHANCE TO MEND 7-1-44

Observers pointed out that Governor Dewey has received such severe criticism from labor and Negro groups that he probably seized upon CIO's designation of Walters as an opportunity to mend his political offenses by effecting his appointment without question.

When Noah Walters entered the laundry industry, women workers

7-1-44

NOAH WALTERS

7-1-44

were receiving as low as $7.00 per week, with unlimited hours, and suffered personal abuse as well as sweat-shop working conditions. The men earned as little as $12.00 per week, and worked as much as 90 hours per week. In 1936, Walters led a successful 11-week strike in Brooklyn that won him recognition in labor circles.

Negro Named To Post In Office Of Labor

Age—New York N.Y.
4-22-44

Atlanta, Ga.—C. J. A. Paddyfote

Streator Is Still World—Memphis, Tenn.

On The West Coast

11-10-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (CNPA) — Despite protests and

other areas. He is a native of the West Indies and has a broad understanding of the customs and traditions of the islanders

Mr. Paddyfote came to the United States several years ago and received his training at Florida A. and M., Tuskegee, and the University of Iowa.

commandant of cadets at Florida A. and M. College, has been appointed assistant labor supply specialist for the Atlanta division of the War Food Administration's Office of Labor. Mr Paddyfote will assist in the recruitment, placement, and supervision of Bahamian and Jamaican farm workers in Florida and

tions to the War Production Board, George Streator, Negro labor division representative for the WJB, is still on the West Coast and proving a very disturbing factor, according

Halts Referral Of Domestic Workers

Daily World – Atlanta, Ga.
8-16-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—A real phenomenon of the war is the recent announcement of the D. C. Employment Service office of the United States Employment Service that it is taking no more orders for household workers.

The development is the climax of a gradual closing down of the USES domestic service division since the program for full job control was initiated on July 1. It means that persons ordinarily accustomed to domestic work will instead be referred to laundries, hotels and restaurants in Washington, which have been rated as essential industries in the nation's capital.

The phenomenal part of the development is that until the war program brought about a change, the referral of domestics from the USES office here represented from 55 to 65 percent of the total referrals of the agency. Of these domestic referrals, 98 percent of them were of Negro workers. This type of referral represented 90 to 95 percent of the total referrals of Negroes to jobs of all types by the USES office.

Oxley Surveys Training For U. S. Employment Offices

Journal & Guide – Norfolk, Va.
3-18-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Training material for use by approximately 20,000 personnel in 1,500 local United States Employment Service offices scattered throughout the nation has been developed by Lawrence A. Oxley, as special attitudes, is said to mark the first time in history that training material suggesting methods for proper handling of minorities has been developed "officially" by a government department.

Prepared primarily as an instructional guide for personnel of local USES offices, the material when properly evaluated and put into practice by such personnel promises to have inestimable force in eliminating race bias in the employment fields.

That the material presented in this handbook can conceivably help make available millions of additional manpower hours to the national war effort is patent.

Under the subheading: "What are the responsibilities of the United States Employment Service toward minority group workers and what knowledge should a United States Employment Service employee possess in this field, the document says: "The problem of placing qualified Negro work applicants becomes less difficult when there is effective administration of hiring controls and a more orderly direction of available labor through employment service channels. The local office, therefore, plays a vital role as an important community agency in the placement of minority group workers.

USES OBJECTIVES

Emphasizing the chief function of USES, the document observes: "The United States Employment Service, therefore, has only one objective in the war emergency, namely, to promote full utilization of qualified labor in the furtherance of the war program."

The handbook places much stress upon what should be the attitude of USES offices' receptionists and interviewers, particularly in dealing with Negro work

LAWRENCE A. OXLEY
applicants, and outlines considerable professional information.

Alvin Rucker Appointed Acting Director Of Employment Service For Puerto Rico

Age – New York, N. Y.
5-6-44

Washington, D. C.—The appointment of Alvin M. Rucker as acting director of the United States Employment Service for Puerto Rico was announced Friday by Paul V. McNutt, chairman of the War Manpower. Mr. Rucker will relieve the present director, Winston Riley, Jr., who has served since establishment of the office in Puerto Rico, and who is now being transferred to the headquarters office in Washington.

USES for Puerto Rico serves as a representative of continental employers, and its program includes pre-selecting workers, and arranging for their transportation to mainland employment.

Mr. Rucker, who has been a senior employment service analyst in the national office, spent several weeks in Puerto Rico in the summer of 1943, during which he supervised the setting up of the original USES office. He returns to head the service for approximately three months, until a permanent director can be selected and trained. 5-6-44

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Mr. Rucker formerly lived in Chicago, where for five years he was with the Illinois State Employment Service. The last two years of employment with the Illinois agency was as manager in the Chicago Central Placement Office, the largest in the Illinois State Employment Service and one of the largest in the country. Prior to 1935, he was the first, and for a long time, the only Negro office manager in the Family Welfare Division of the Chicago Relief Administration. In 1940 he was summoned to the national USES office in Washington.

He is a graduate of the University of Illinois, was an Urban League graduate fellow of the University of Pittsburgh, and has done further graduate work at the University of Chicago, and the Graduate School conducted by the U. S. Department of Agriculture in Washington. 5-6-44

Mr. Rucker's present appointment in Puerto Rico is effective immediately, and represents the first assignment as director given to a Negro officer of USES.

N.Y. Attorney To State Labor Post

Defender – Chicago, Ill.
6-3-44

ALBANY—Richard L. Baltimore Sr., New York Negro attorney, was recently appointed as a workman's compensation referee, it was announced by Edward Corsi, Industrial commissioner, last week.

An assistant United States Attorney in New York for six years, Baltimore joined the Federal Bar association, being sponsored by Charles H. Tuttle under whom he worked. The New York chapter withdrew when the national officers of the association ruled that it was limited to white lawyers, and the Federal Bar association of New York and New Jersey was formed.

Baltimore's father was a protege of President Grant and went to work at the Washington navy yard. He studied mechanical engineering and later taught that subject in the public schools of Washington.

The International Labor Organization

The International Labor Organization has been meeting

foundation for peace. It says "All human beings, irrespective of race, creed or sex, have the right to pursuit of both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity, of economic security and equal

especially declares that all national and international policies, particularly economic and financial policies, should be judged only as they promote or hinder the welfare of human beings, and it is the responsibility of the International Labor Organization to consider all such policies and it asks for full employment and training of workers, the measure of their skill and attainment so as to make their greatest contribution to well-being. It believes in the right of collective bargaining; in social security; the protection of life and health; child welfare and the protection adequate housing and recreational facilities; and adequate education and vocational opportunities.

The charter, the progressive opinion of the world has not attracted from the beginning and ternational policies, under the leadership of its first secretary, Albert Thomas, it cies, should be judged went out to better conditions of labor among the oppressed advance of human be and exploited peoples of the colonies. It accomplished a International Labor O great deal. It survived the war and now with renewed life, and measures. It as t is beginning its post-war existence. It ought to have the labor to fullest measu upport of all people and especially American Negroes.

The charter which it adopted at Philadelphia is worth higher wages; in colle ttention. In reaffirmed certain fundamental principles; protection of life and h hat labor is not a commodity to be bought and sold; that pro- of mothers; adequate ress demand freedom of expression and organization; that equality of education a overty is always a danger to prosperity; and that the war Back of this charter, the progressive opinion of the gainst poverty must be carried on with unlenting vigor within immediately ought to h ach nation and with concerted international effort. The bor organization believes that social justice is the only real

35b-1944

Legless Man Does Work Able-Bodied All Refuse To Take

Age-Herald
Birmingham, Ala.
8-6-44

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—If every person in Alabama were as anxious to do his part as is Thomas T. Miller, the war would have been over long ago, or, at least Alabama would have done its part toward winning the war.

Despite the fact he is legless, Miller, 40-year-old Montgomery Negro, is doing a kind of work many able-bodied men have refused to do—cut grass.

The middle-aged Negro, who lost both legs in a gin accident when 12 years old, can be seen over Montgomery trimming lawns that have grown knee-high with grass, mute evidence that others have refused to do the work.

Charles Brantley, who lives on Norman Bridge Road, said he had tried for three weeks to get someone to cut the grass at his apartment. Nobody wanted the job—until Miller came along and, his stumps strapped to a rocking chair, used two tripods that served to push him forward, first cut the grass with a blade and then cut it with a lawn mower.

Miller says he can't understand why Gov. Sparks has to institute a vagrancy campaign to get some people to work. Miller is married and has two children to support.

2,000 Puerto Ricans To Be Sent Here As Workers

Age—New York, N.Y.
5-6-44

Two thousand unskilled workers will be recruited in Puerto Rico within the next two months for railroad maintenance work in the United States, the War Manpower Commission announced Monday.

The recruiting campaign was opened last week by Winston Riley, Jr., Director of the United States Employment Service for Puerto Rico. Railroad representatives will go to Puerto Rico to select workers from applications in the San Juan office of the USES.

5-6-44

This will be the first large group of unskilled laborers imported from Puerto Rico to aid in solving continental manpower problems. Last year about 1,030 Puerto Ricans came to the States but the majority were skilled workmen.

World Memphis, Tennessee 8-29-44

Look Publisher Urges Negro Training For Better, Skilled Jobs

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
12-30-44

By GARDNER COWLES JR.

First of a Series by Prominent Americans on the Post-War Prospects for the Negro

In discussing race relations for white readers, people who think as we do spend most of their effort denouncing the inexcusable injustices which white men continue to perpetrate on racial minorities and pointing out that Negroes are after all human beings very much like themselves, with many talents and virtues.

For Chicago Defender readers, however, all that is kindergarten stuff. So let's consider it said, and go on from there.

What you want most to know is how things are going to be for Negroes after the war, particularly as regards jobs.

12-30-44

I wish I could tell you. But this much is certain: If we have mass unemployment, Negroes will suffer their share of it and probably more; if we have full employment, Negroes will have jobs along with the rest.

There are plenty of conflicting

chance of some more walls. Many jobs would remain barred on the chance of some more walls. Many jobs would remain barred
Even in war emergency, to Negroes but for the FEPC, de-
s have not always taken full spite common sense and a labor
ge of available vocational shortage. Militancy and political
g opportunities, out of dis-action have a definite place in a
ment based on past dis-reform as fundamental as this.
ments.

Militancy Needed

Job approaches

e unionized skilled crafts, But it is important that mili-
entry is by apprenticeship, tant techniques should not be the
s continue to be pretty com- only ones. Depending on hand when
shut out, but these play a
role in the total economy
goes on. In the newer in-there's an opening and having what
it is still touch and go the employer wants are still the
. Negroes will come into
vn, or be shut out worse main things in getting a job or a
er. promotion.

take all possible approach. "I need a job badly, I'm willing
e that this issue is settled to try anything" is a very poor
ndividual education, train- approach.
l job-seeking by Negroes So is the chip-on-the-shoulder
ent help through the Fair approach.
ent Practices Committee
p of sympathetic labor
group action by the Negroes;
emselves; and a great deal
tion of the whole com- One advantage Negroes have over
munity. whites is that most

better manners, and it is a false militancy which throws away this asset as "too Uncle Tom." Good manners can be aristocratic as well as servile, and they butter many parsnips.

Failure to know the ropes also creates misunderstandings. Garment factories with war contracts found that women with WPA sewing project experience were not necessarily skilled operators right at the start; boys with a few months of vocational night school were not machinists on that account. Girls with good mar marks in a high school stenographic course can't necessarily take dictation at 80 words a minute. These are facts of life, for people of any race, and Negroes on meeting them must guard against mistaking them for discrimination. There's plenty of that without imagining fic fictitious cases.

The FEPC is still in a very wob l bly babyhood, but it has already done enough to show that there are great possibilities in its methods, especially if it comes to be supplemented by similar state agencies.

But though President Roosevelt founded the FEPC, and the Republican party platform endorsed the proposal to make it permanent, it still faces a very stiff fight in Congress. This is a straight-out political fight and Negroes will need all the allies they can muster on left, righ and center.

Negroes are in a strategic position politically, with a large vote in severla doubtful states and both parties bidding for their support.

Defender--Chicago, Ill. 12-30-44

35c1944

CRASS STUPIDITY

Age - New York N.Y. 3-18-44

IN LAST week's papers, almost simultaneously there appeared stories that 10 railroads in the South had balked at hiring Negroes, and that a campaign had been launched by a newly established Railroad Manpower Mobilization Committee to fill 100,000 present and impending job vacancies on the railroads of the nation. Age-N.Y. N.Y. 3-18-44

In announcing the drive for 100,000 additional railroad workers, Joseph B. Eastman, Director of the Office of Defense Transportation, said:

"While no serious tie-ups have yet occurred in the transportation of war materials or essential civilian goods, there has been some local congestion caused by lack of manpower, and unless offset by remedial action, such congestion is bound to become serious.

"The magnificent job that is being done by the railroads — by both men and management — has won much public acclaim. It is well-deserved acclaim, for the railroads are carrying a greater load than ever before in their history and doing it with limited equipment and shrinking labor supply. 3-18-44

"However, ths record is being attained only at the cost of increasing strain upon our railroad workers. Present manpower is being stretched very close to the limit of its endurance. Yet the number of railroad workers continue to grow smaller owing to the wartime demands on manpower.

Los Angeles Railway Corporation Appears Before FEPC On Discrimination Charges

WASHINGTON, D.C.--The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice held public hearings in Los Angeles, Calif., on August 8 and 9 on complaints that the Los Angeles Railway Corporation has refused because of their race to hier qualified Negro workers, as bus and trolley car operators, Malcolm Ross FEPC chairman, announced.

The committee, Mr. Ross said, heard testimony to determine whether the company, in violation of Executive Order 9436 forbidding employment discrimination in war industries, has failed to utilize available manpower on its lines to the point where it is unable to provide adequate transportation for war workers.

The full membership of FEPC sat at the hearing, at which the company was given the opportunity to present and cross-examine witnesses. Maceo Hubbard of the FEPC staff, conducted the case for the committee.

Complaints filed with FEPC charge that the coprporation has called upon the United States Employment Service War Manpower Commission, to fill its needs for bus and trolley operators and that among the applicants for jobs and training were many Negroes who for the last year and a half, have consistently been refused training and job opportunities, The names of 16 Negro applicants who filed complaints with FEPC are cited in the complaint together with the names of 60 additional Negroes who were referred by USES for employment and were allegedly refused by the company between January 1 and March 10 of this year.

The hearings began at 10 o'clock on August 8 in the California State Building, Los Angeles, Members of FEPC include Mr. Ross, John Brophy, Charles Horn, Charles Houston, Boris Shiskin, Sara Southall and Milton Webster.

Age--New York, N. Y. 8-12-44

35c-1944

The Problem of Seniority And the Negro Worker

The Worker — New York, N. Y.

10-8-44

By ROY HUDSON

Out of the fight for a program of full production and full employment will arise many specific tasks. None of these will be more crucial than that of the relation of the seniority system to the question of jobs for vets, Negroes and women during the period of reconversion. What is done on this question will not solve the problem of full production, but it will be decisive in achieving and maintaining the unity necessary for its solution. While this article discusses especially the fight of organized labor for the rights of the Negro workers, the general approach developed applies to the vets and women, in one form or another.

SOME PROBLEMS

The first and basic question is will the rights of the Negro people to work at any occupation they are qualified for be maintained after the war and especially during the reconversion period? 10-8-44

This problem arises out of the fear or threat that some employers, who during the war have been prevented from discriminating against the Negroes, may use the period of reconversion and mass lay-offs for the purpose of again eliminating Negroes from employment.

Rights mean nothing unless they produce practical results. If there are Negroes employed, then the right of the Negroes to work is a fact. If no Negroes are employed in a given plant then the right of the Negroes in that plant no longer exists and has to be re-established.

The organizational growth of the trade unions since the formation of the CIO has increased the strength and influence of labor enormously. During the war period especially, labor has been able to solve its problems, not by merely exercising its economic strength, but primarily by political action. Two important factors helped labor to accomplish this. First, it has been able to develop greater political understanding, initiative and organize its own independent political strength. Secondly, it has been able to win political allies. Of these allies, the most important singly force has been the Negro people who are also maturing as an independent political force.

The alliance between labor and the Negro people arose and became cemented on the basis of the fact that in recent years labor has more consistently fought against lynching, jimcrow and other forms of discrimination, and especially because sections of labor began to fight for Negroes to have jobs in places where they were never before employed. 10-8-44

LABOR DID IT

For generations, the feeble efforts of various social forces to help the Negroes secure equal opportunity to secure work, were ineffective. Only organized labor had the power to wage an effective fight. Already before the war, sections of organized labor began to take up this question and there were even strikes to enforce the right of Negroes to work. During the war ever larger sections of labor have carried forward this fight through political action in support of the Fair Employment Practices Act. Even though only a section of labor began this fight, it showed the Negro people that organized labor was a force that could and would help the Negro people win their fight for one of their fundamental demands —equal right of employment at equal pay. 10-8-44

By its fight for jobs for Negroes and against all forms of discrimination, the trade unions have recruited many tens of thousands of Negro workers and also won millions of Negro people as an ally of labor and other democratic forces.

Labor's policy on this question influenced the position of the Negro people's movement toward organized labor and the camp of democracy as a whole. It has been of great significance in ensuring the united support of the Negroes for the war effort. Not once in recent years has any important section of Negroes taken a stand in opposition to the progressive policies of organized labor. If the Negro people have not become the victims of the Dewey demagogy, it is not only because the record of the Roosevelt Administration, but also as a result of the record of the progressive forces of labor which taught large sections of Negroes of their need for unity with organized labor as the main social force upon whom the Negroes can rely in the fight. Roosevelt is that force around whom all democratic forces unite, but labor is the decisive force in the camp of those united around the Roosevelt program and leadership. But now a real test will face this alliance during the reconversion period. One of the principal factors that will determine whether this alliance will stand or fall will be determined by whether labor finds the way to prevent those gains in establishing the rights of the Negroes to work during the war from being wiped out during the reconversion period. 10-8-44

NEGROES DETERMINED

The Negroes are determined that their right to work shall be upheld where it has already been established, and to establish that right where it does not exist. On the basis of the record, and because it is in the interests of organized labor, the Negro people expect the trade union movement to join with them in accomplishing these aims in the coming reconversion period. If labor should fail to recognize its responsibility, then the grave danger would arise that sections of Negroes would look elsewhere for allies, and there would be plenty of false allies who would promise the moon if they could only split the nation's unity around President Roosevelt by breaking up the alliance of organized labor and the Negro people. Such an event would be a major disaster for labor, the future of our nation. 10-8-44

Already there are many indications that labor recognizes the seriousness of this problem. In searching for the practical answer to this question, many trade unionists, both white and Negro, are beginning to feel that they are confronted with a seeming contradiction incapable of solution. They ask: "How can the right of the Negroes to work be upheld during the reconversion period without destroying the seniority system?" Because they have low seniority, practically all Negroes are certain to be laid off in many places during the reconversion period, with the danger that the boss will again want to refuse to rehire any Negroes.

"If some Negroes could be kept at work it would maintain their right to work, but this can't be done without changes in the seniority plan which would mean weakening or smashing a principle which labor fought so long and hard to establish to protect the individual and the union. If we lose the support of the Negroes, we are sunk; if the seniority system is smashed, we are also sunk. What then is the solution?" 10-8-44

DOES NOT CONFLICT

The solution is to be found, in my opinion, in understanding that the fight to retain the rights of Negroes to work is not in conflict with the seniority system. Any adjustments that may be required to guarantee the rights of the Negroes to work are necessary measures to protect and strengthen the seniority system itself, if the purpose of the seniority system is to be realized and maintained. 10-8-44

Seniority systems are a record of gains and rights established and are designed to safeguard them. But once a seniority system is established, it does not mean that there are no further gains to be achieved and safeguard the gains. In this these things are won, existing systems must be adjusted to record and afeguard the gains. In this respect, many seniority systems were put into effect at a time when in most cases labor was not strong enough to put an end to discrimination of Negroes in employment. Therefore, in many plants and industries most Negroes have low seniority, because the employers for a long time refused to hire Negroes. But in recent years this right has been established in many places. Where this is the case, it becomes necessary to adjust the specific seniority scheme in order to record this fact and to safeguard it.

With the seniority system, the trade unions, seek to abolish or limit the employer from exercising arbitrary power in connection with promotions, lay-offs, firings, and retraining. The seniority system should help protect the individual worker from injustices and the union from being weakened when the employer has the uncontrolled right to promote, lay off and hire.

If the mechanical application of the seniority system results in wiping out those rights established by the trade unions—then does it not mean that an injustice is being done to an important group of workers and that therefore, instead of the purpose of the seniority system being upheld, in reality it is being defeated?

If the above were to take place and as a result the Negro workers were to lose confidence in the union, then would not the purpose of the seniority system be defeated because, by failing to uphold the rights of the Negroes to a job, the union has been weakened?

MUST PROTECT ALL

10-8-44

Finally, for the purpose of discussion, let us assume the following: In a given plant where formerly no Negroes were employed, a thousand now work on war production. The union fails to adjust its seniority plan to be in accord with this fact, and during reconversion, every Negro is laid off because they have low seniority. When rehiring takes place, no Negroes are rehired because the Negroes still have the lowest seniority. Even though the Negroes protest, the union does nothing, on the grounds that the seniority system can't be changed. Supposing then the employer fires a white worker in violation of the seniority plan and the union fights to defend the right of the individual and the seniority system. Would there not then be the danger that the employer would be able to get some response from embittered Negroes when the employer says: "You Negroes shouldn't support the union in this fight because the union's seniority system prevents me from hiring Negroes"? Is any further argument needed to show that in fighting to uphold the right of Negroes to work at every trade and in every plant, labor is also fighting to uphold and strengthen bona fide seniority plans? 10-8-44

The principle of seniority is a fundamental proposition of the trade union movement. Bona fide seniority systems are a protection to all the workers, white and black, men and women. The Negroes will join with their white brothers in fighting to uphold the principle of seniority. He will do so with full enthusiasm even though his seniority in most cases is bound to be lower than his white trade union brother's, because employers for a long time had refused to employ Negroes. He knows that the trade union movement does not have the power to wipe out the effect of past discrimination practices.

The Negro workers will not be fooled by the treacherous argument that he can only get his rights and

10-8-44

rucial problem to GUARAN- W TO NEGROES T OF NEGROES ANY JOB HE IS DO. The only way Negroes to work, shed, can continue during the recon- of the problem manner that has

any reality at all, is by seeing to it that Negroes are actually working when the plants are being operated. Wherever a Negro is at work, then it means that the right of Negroes to work in that plant or trade is established even if many other Negroes may be temporarily idle. Therefore, does not the very nature of the seniority system suggest that in most cases adjustments will be necessary

be denied the right to work be- that the right of Negroes where it is established, can to be guaranteed during the version period in a manner

in existing contracts or seniority plans to provide that the present proportion of Negroes employed in a given plant and department will be continued during the period of reconversion, layoffs and rehiring? This would mean concretely if, out of 100 men employed 10 were Negroes, then the same ratio would be maintained. 10-8-44

Perhaps there is a better way of meeting this problem than this suggestion. But the purpose of making it is to emphasize that a major problem exists that must be solved. Philip Murray, with true labor statesmanship, has already made it clear that labor must be prepared to adjust seniority plans where important changes make it clear that such adjustments are required. On behalf of organized labor, he has made an agreement with the Veterans of Foreign Wars providing that time served in the armed services shall constitute accumulated seniority. This applies not only to those veterans who left a job to enter the army, but also those who were never employed in industry before entering the service. When such people get a job after demobilization, the time spent in the services shall also count as seniority on that job. Labor should display the same flexibility and concreteness in approaching the problem of guaranteeing the right of Negroes to work and its relation to the seniority system.

Randolph Opposed, Says Memphis AFL

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

MEMPHIS—(ANP)—"We consider Randolph a rabble-rouser who stirs up race trouble," Levi Loring, Memphis Trades and Labor Council president, AFL, said of A. Philip Randolph, president and organizer of the Brotherhood of Pullman Porters, last week.

The council later adopted a resolution declaring that it will "not support a mass meeting of any other activity in which the brotherhood head is a participant." 3-25-44

The action followed an announcement of the executive council that plans for an address here by Randolph sometime in April had been opposed in a letter to William Green, president of AFL. The resolution termed Randolph "an insincere, rabble-rousing demagogue," and stated that the Tennessee Federation of Labor had no knowledge of the plan for Randolph to address a meeting in Memphis.

Majority Of 1500 Negroes Balk At Jim Crow Eating

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

7-8-44

Leave Jobs at Pratt-Whitney Airplane Engine Plant When Six Cafeterias Post "Signs"

By LOUIS BLUE

KANSAS CITY, Mo., (ANP)—In protest against the inauguration of a jim crow cafeteria system at the huge Pratt and Whitney Airplane Engine plant here, the majority of the 1,500 Negro workers left their jobs in a work stoppage Tuesday, June 27.

Although the situation has not been corrected, they returned to their jobs Thursday, rather than cripple the production of engines needed by the Navy, but they returned with a determination to boycott all of the plant cafeterias, including the two designated for Negroes.

Ate in Locker Rooms

The workers carried their lunches and ate them in the locker rooms rather than patronize the Jim Crow rest rooms. 7-8-44

The work stoppage followed the erection of signs over the plant's six cafeterias, designating four cafeterias "for whites only" and two "for Negroes only." Up to noon Tuesday, all of the plant employes, white and colored, had eaten in any of the cafeterias without discrimination, although the plant has Jim Crow rest rooms.

A fight in one of the cafeterias Monday night in which a Negro struck a white man, breaking his glasses and cutting his face, led to the placing of the Jim Crow signs.

Claim Union Demanded It

Plant officials said that the Jim Crow signs were set up at the request of the local union of the International Association of Machinists which won the bargaining rights at the plant in an NLRB election April 28.

Following Monday night's fight, the local sent a letter to the management asking that separate cafeterias be provided for Negro and white workers. A second fight Tuesday morning led the plant officials to set up Jim Crow signs between breakfast and luncheon. 7-8-44

When the first shift of workers went to lunch around 11 a. m. and saw the Jim Crow signs, they decided to stop work. Word was passed quickly from department to department and workers left their posts and congregated in the corridors. Word was passed to second and third shift workers. 7-8-44

A conference with plant officials Tuesday afternoon resulted in an agreement proposed by the Negro workers that if the signs were removed, the Negro workers would not enter any of the cafeterias until a more acceptable plan could be worked out.

Work or Go Home

It was also agreed that the workers would either return to their jobs or go home—that they would not continue to block the hallways and locker rooms.

Wednesday only a few of the employes went to work, but on Wednesday night a group of workers met at the Urban league and voted to return to their jobs but to continue to protest the Jim Crow cafeteria set-up. 7-8-44

Most of the workers were on the job Thursday with their lunch kits. Only one or two workers entered the Jim Crow cafeterias.

Compromise Plan

In what it calls a "compromise" the management, at suggestion of the union, had proposed that instead of setting aside two cafeterias for Negroes, a separate section be set aside for them in each of the six cafeterias.

Negro employes have refused to accept this plan, which they say is "segregation right on." They have formed a temporary organization to carry on their fight against the Jim Crow set-up. 7-8-44

When the Machinists' union, which has a long-standing policy against the admittance of Negroes as members, won the bargaining rights at Pratt and Whitney, an agreement was entered into with the AFL Building Service Employes union whereby Negroes, no matter what their skill or occupation at the plant, would join the Building Service Union, which is for maintenance men and janitors. They were promised full union protection and the benefit of any wage increase or improvement in working conditions gained by the machinists, the rightful bargainers.

So far, less than 200 Negro employes have joined the Building Service union, preferring to remain out of the union altogether rather than to accept membership in a union below their skills. With one exception, the work stoppage was carried on without violence or threatened violence. 7-8-44

In the one case, a Negro woman machine operator was roughly handled by guards, who entered a women's locker room and with their night sticks drove 30 Negro women out of the plant.

NAACP FORWARDS ATTEMPTED RAPE STATEMENT TO MAJOR GEN. DONOVAN FOR ACTION

Weekly — New Orleans, La.

7-15-44

The local branch of the NAACP took action to prevent further embarrassment to and attempted attacks on Negro women working in the vicinity of Italian war prisoners. This particular case concerns Miss Edna Dillon, who is employed at the New Orleans Army Air Base. The following information and signed statement of attempted rape were forwarded to the commanding general of the Eighth Corps Area:

July 5, 1944.

Major Gen. Richard E. Donovan,
Commander Eighth Corps Area,
Dallas, Texas.

Dear Sir: 7-15-44

Enclosed find copy of complaint filed with this branch, which is self-explanatory. In Louisiana there is a law against attempted rape, and it appears that no forceful action has been taken to eliminate the recurrence of this act.

We respectfully request an immediate investigation and sincerely hope that these things will not happen to women of color, and if adequate protection is not given we will have to encourage our women to seek employment elsewhere. 7-15-44

Very truly yours,

DANIEL E. BYRD, President,
New Orleans Branch, NAACP.

Seamen's Union Charged With Racial Bias

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

10-14-44

The Seafarers International Union, an American Federation of Labor affiliate, was charged this week with a series of acts of racial discrimination dating back over the last twelve months, mostly concerning the union's alleged refusal to ship colored personnel with white crews.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, which issued the complaint, ordered representatives of the union to appear before a sub committee, headed by Malcolm Ross chairman of the committee, at 10 a m. Tuesday at the Bar Association Building, 42 West Forty-fourth street.

According to Edward Lawson, regional director of the committee, while most of the charges concern discrimination against Negroes, the union also is alleged to have refused to permit white personnel to serve with colored mess crews.

Jailed Trying to Quit Dixie

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.

6-10-44

CAMDEN, N. J. — (ANP) — Charges that colored workers in the South are being intimidated and held incommunicado in jail to prevent them from coming to South Jersey to work in war plants, were made by James E. Heap, Jr., employment manager of the Compbell Soup Company, here Friday.

Speaking at a meeting of the Men's Club of the Camden Y, Mr. Heap said that the 500 Southerners "who worked in our Camden plants were the finest group of employees we ever had."

He said that in some places if a colored person buys a ticket and there is a suspicion that he is leaving the State he is taken off a bus or trolley by plainclothesmen and taken to police headquarters where he is sometimes held indefinitely for "questioning."

35c-1944

Supreme Court To Hear Case

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

11-15-44

By EARNEST E. JOHNSON

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — As a friend of the court, the United States government acting through the office of the attorney general, last Thursday filed a brief with the United States Supreme court upholding the claims of two Negro petitioners against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineemen, and the Louisville Nashville railroad. The litigation is generally referred to as the Tunstall case, and comes before the high court on Wednesday.

Petitioners have charged that they have been discriminated against in job rights and other working advantages by reason of the fact that Negroes are barred from membership in the brotherhood. The union is recognized under the terms of the Railway Labor act as the bargaining representative for the firemen.

"Implicit in the grant of such rights is a correlative duty of the representative to act in behalf of all the employes in the until without discrimination," the brief declares. "Congress would not have incarcerated a minority or an individual from representing itself or his own interests without imposing upon the craft representative a duty to serve on behalf of the craft as a whole and not merely for the benefit of certain portions of it favored as a result of discrimination against others."

The brief says clearly that the brotherhood entered into and is enforcing agreements which discriminate against Negro firemen because of their race, and observes that the union is not acting "in good faith as the representative of the entire craft."

11-15-44

Recalling the decision of the supreme court last spring in which Negro redcaps in St. Paul were denied bargaining rights although denied membership in a union which bars them, the attorney generals' brief observes that "if the (Railway Labor) act should be construed as depriving a minority of its rights to self-representation without imposing an enforcible duty on the craft representative to act in good faith on behalf of the minority, a constitutional question would arise which would not be subject to the limitations set forth in the cases decided at the last term.

JIM CROW CONTRACTS FOUGHT

St. Louis Argus, Missouri

Seek To Knockout RR Union's Restriction

11-17-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — The right of trade unions to discriminate against Negroes in collective bargaining contracts with employers is challenged in a brief just filed in the U. S. Supreme Court by the American Civil Liberties Union in a case to be heard on November 14. The brief, signed by prominent Southern lawyers as well as counsel for the Union, supports the suit of two Negro firemen, Tom Tunstall and Bester Steele, against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Engineemen and two southern railroads to invalidate Jim Crow contracts.

The ACLU brief filed as a "friend of the court" holds that the decision in this case will have "telling consequence for the rights of minority workers everywhere" in collective bargaining contracts signed under both the Railway Labor Act and the National Labor Relations Act. The brief continues:

"It is essential for the preservation of basic principles of our democracy that the deprivation of the right to work on account of race, which is at issue in this case, be declared unlawful. During the coming months this question will become even more acute as reconversion and the consequent shrinkage of jobs may cause discrimination against Negro workers who have won a foothold in industry during the war."

The brief reminds the high court that there have already been "bloody consequences" of attempts to drive Negro firemen out of their jobs on southern railroads, and urges the court to invalidate the agreement between the brotherhood and the railroads, order the reinstatement of the two firemen, and establish "once and for all" that collective bargaining representatives must represent minority employees fairly.

The case of Tunstall against the brotherhood and the Norfolk Southern Railway Company was certified to the Supreme Court from the U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals at Richmond, Va., and the Steele case, involving the Louisville and Nashville Railroads, as well as the brotherhood, from the Supreme Court of Alabama. The Negro firemen are represented by Charles H. Houston of Washington, D. C., a member of the National Committee of the ACLU.

Negro's Case Against Union Up For Action

News — Birmingham, Ala.

11-14-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Bester William Steele, Alabama Negro fireman employed by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad for 33 years, took his case against the union in which he charges labor discrimination, to the United States Supreme Court Monday.

The case, in which the plaintiff alleges that the union involved degraded him from fireman to a lower post and replaced him with a white man of less seniority, had been tried in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County and the Alabama Supreme Court. Claiming that neither court had acted sufficiently toward ending labor discrimination, Steele is taking his csae to the highest court of the land through his attorney, Charles H. Houston, Negro.

The Broherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen was charged at the opening hearings with refusing membership to Negroes and with attempting to drive them out of jobs, even though it is the official bargaining agent for all firemen.

Charging conspiracy and fraud, Houston asserted that Steele had been degraded from the job of fireman and replaced with a white man of less seniority.

11-14-44

Circuit and State Courts had based their decisions on the ground that the Railway Labor Act placed mandatory duty upon the railroad company to bargain with representatives selected by the majority of a class or craft of employes. The court held that the facts alleged did not sustain the charge of conspiracy between the railroad and the brotherhood to defraud Negroes of their seniority and other rights.

Industry Heads Decline To Discuss Negro And Post-War Jobs

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

10-14-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C., (NNPA) — Apparent reluctance on the part of industry representatives to discuss the postwar industrial outlook for Negroes was cited last week by Dr. Abram L. Harris, professor of Economics at Howard University, as indication of the need for the type of conference being planned by the Division of the Social Sciences of the Graduate School of Howard for October 18-20.

Of twenty-two industrialists and industry representatives invited to participate in the conference, only two have accepted. They are Abe Rubin, vice president of the National Smelting Company in Cleveland, Ohio; and Emerson P. Schmidt, director of Economic Research for the United States Chamber of Commerce.

10-14-44

The invitation has been declined, with a varying range of excuse, by the following persons: Lawrence Bell of Bell Aircraft; Henry Kaiser, the shipbuilder; Eric Johnston, president of the United States Chamber of Commerce; R. E. Gil of Sperry Gyroscope Company; Paul G. Hoffman, president of the Studebaker Corporation; Russell Greenley, director of personnel and training for Carnegie-Illinois Steel Co.; C. D. Mackay, assistant president of the Southern Railway System.

Ivan L. Willis, head of Industrial Relations for the Curtis-Wright Aircraft Co.; R. Randall Irwin of the Industrial Relations Research Dept., Aeronautical Chamber of Commerce of America; E. J. Lyon, director of Industrial Relations for Curtis-Wright; Homer L. Ferguson of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Drydock Co.; Earl F. Blank, director of Personnel Relations for Jones-Laughlin Steel Co.; Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of Industrial Relations for the Philadelphia Transportation Company; and C. E. Muzzer, chief of personnel for the Pennsylvania Railroad Co.

LABOR RESPONSE GOOD

Practically every labor representative invited has accepted, Dr. Harris declared.

10-14-44

Commenting on the reception given the invitations to industry representatives, Dr. Harris said: "In some cases, employers are tied up with the government, and feel they would prefer not to go through the tedious process of clearing their speeches with the government and their industries. That is understandable. In one or two cases, the invitations have been late because of previous declinations.

CRUX OF FREE ENTERPRISE

"As for the rest, either they do not see the problem as important, or they believe it is too hot to handle. With all their 'thumping' for a system of free enterprise, they really do not understand the essential features or characteristics of free enterprise.

"The problem of Negroes, or of anyone, in their fullest capacities is the crux of free enterprise," he said.

10-14-44

"The problem of employment of Negroes, or of anyone, in their fullest capacities is the crux of free enterprise," he said.

Other industry representatives have been invited to participate in the conference. No responses have been received from them yet.

Supreme Court Considers Jim Crow Contracts

Memphis World
Memphis, Tenn

11-17-44

WASHINGTON — (SNS) — The right of trade unions to discriminate Negroes in collective bargaining contracts with employers is challenged in a brief just filed in the U. S. Supreme Court by the American Civil Liberties Union in a case to be heard today. The brief, signed by prominent Southern lawyers as well as counsel for the Union, supports the suit of two Negro firemen, Tom Tunstall and Bester Steele, against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and two Southern railroad to invalidate Jim Crow contracts.

The ACLU brief filed as a "friend of the court" holds that the decision in this case will have "telling consequence for the rights of mi-

for the preservation of basic democratic principles, the brief asked that deprivation of the right to work on account of race, which was the issue in this case, be declared unlawful.

11-15-44

against colored firemen in collective bargaining contracts with employers.

The brief supports the suit of two colored firemen, Tom Tunstall and Bester Steele, against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineman and two railroads to invalidate contracts.

Union's J.C. Contract Baltimore, Md.,

Eight

yers signed a brief filed in the Brotherhood U.S. Supreme Court by the Amer-Firemen and ican Civil Liberties Union pro-Southern railroa testing the right of trade unionsjim-crow contract

Dixie Lawyers Protest

Atlanta, Ga.

CIO Ignores Special Negro Considerations

N.Y. Amsterdam News
12-2-44 N.Y., N.Y.

Negro Leaders Back Rejection of Pro-Negro Bias Seniority Clauses

CHICAGO — A number of resolutions calling for special seniority considerations for Negro workers were turned down by the CIO Resolutions Committee at the seventh constitutional convention, which started last Monday at the huge Stevens hotel, on the ground that postwar jobs for Negroes and other minority workers can be protected in other ways.

In rejecting special seniority clauses, the resolutions committee had the virtually unanimous backing of the CIO Negro leadership which considers such proposals a danger to Negro and white unity in the trade union movement.

Reasons for Opposition

Four reasons for opposition are advanced by such leaders as Willard Townsend, now top ranking Negro in the CIO; Richard Carter of Philadelphia, James Mason of Canton, O.; Phil Weightman of Chicago and Boyd Wilson of St. Louis.

"Proportional seniority" would poison race relations and antagonize white workers, thus making future economic advancement of Negroes in plants exceedingly difficult:

It would cut the ground from under the Negro unionist's fight for economic equality by making it appear Negroes are not seeking justice by privilege.

Negroes have no more right to take a job from a white man than a white man has to take a job from a Negro:

Negroes will be extremely fortunate if they can retain the regular seniority now in effect during heavy postwar employment. Tens of thousands have not been the last hired, and under the regular seniority system they would not be the first fired.

Advocates Contend

Advocates of "super seniority" for Negroes contend that special consideration is necessary to insure Negro postwar employment in most plants because, due to racial discrimination, they had not worked in them until it became necessary du to manpower shortage. Negro workers, under straight seniority, woul be the first laid off, they say.

After rejecting the half dozen o more proposals, the convention wen on record with a resolution callin on all of its international unions t incorporate into collective bargain ing agreements a provision that "N person seeking employment shall b discriminated against because race, creed, color or place of origin training. Other Negro applicants have since been offered employment.

SOUTH'N WHITE
Weekly — New Orleans

LAWYERS FILE PROTEST BRIEF

11-18-44

(By The Associated Negro Press)

New York, Nov. 15.—A group of prominent white southern lawyers last week attached their signatures to the brief filed in the United States Supreme Court in protest of the right of trade unions to discriminate against Negroes in collective bargaining contracts with employers.

Filed by the American Civil Liberties Union against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, the brief holds that the decision in this case will have "telling consequence for the rights of minority workers everywhere" in collective bargaining contracts signed under both the Railway Labor act and the National Labor Relations act. It is expected that the case will be heard on Nov. 14.

"It is essential for the preservation of basic principles of our democracy that the deprivation of the right to work on account of race, which is the issue in this case, be declared unlawful," the brief states. "During the coming months this question will become even more acute as reconversion and the consequent shrinkage of jobs may cause discrimination against Negro workers who have won a foothold in industry during the war."

11-18-44

The brief supports the suit of two Negro firemen, Tom Tunstall and Bester Steele, against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and two southern railroads to invalidate jim crow contracts. The two men are represented by Charles H. Houston of Washington, Negro member of the national committee of the ACLU.

Discriminatory Policy of AFL Attacked in 3 Cases

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
12-2-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON—(NNPA)—The discriminatory policy of American Federation of Labor unions is being attacked on many sides in the legal field.

The Supreme Court recently heard argument by Charles H. Houston, attorney, of the Tunstall and Steele cases against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Enginemen and Firemen, AFL.

It was contended that the brotherhood cannot represent the entire craft or class of workers under the Railway Labor Acts when they exclude colored workers from membership and use every bargaining advantage for the benefit of their own restricted membership.

High Court Gets 2nd Case

Last week, another case, Wallace Corp. vs. NLRB, was argued before the same court.

The NLRB attorney maintained that any employer who discharges a colored worker from a closed shop plant because of non-membership in a union, when the union refuses membership on account of race, is violating NLRB regulattions.

An AFL union is the bargaining agent at the Wallace Corporation.

12-2-44

NLRB Hearing Ordered

The NLRB has ordered a hearing in the case of Larus and Brother Company, in which the CIO charges the AFL union, elected bargaining agent, refuses membership to colored workers in the tobacco plant.

The AFL union has set up an auxiliary union and denies that it discriminates. The company contends that in dealings with the Tobacco Workers' union, AFL, assurance was given that the union would provide full representation to all workers.

12-2-44

The AFL recently stated its opposition to provisions in the proposed bills for a permanent FEPC which would give the agency any jurisdiction over discrimination by unions as to membership.

Nip Discrimination In Radio Band Case

Chicago Defender Ill.
11-18-44

NEW YORK. — When five top-ranking Negro musicians were cut out of the three Chesterfield radio shows last week it created a furore in jazz circles. One white member of the orchestra quit and Local 802 to which the musicians belong immediately wired Paul Baron, leader of the aggregation that the men must be rehired. The men, Teddy Wilson, Specs Powell, Al Hall, Roy Eldridge and Charlie Shavers were offered their jobs back but Eldridge went with Artie Shaw instead and Al Hall went on the road with Mary Lou Williams.

By-laws of the union state that no members must not be discriminated against because of political opinion, color, creed or religion.

Future Of Negroes In Goverment Is Seen As Gloomy

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
11-16-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) —The future of the Negro in government service is not a hopeful one, the FEPC notwithstanding, and certain specific measures will be required to bolster that position if it is to be done at all. This is the opinion of Leslie Perry, legislative representative of the Washington bureau of the NNPA, expressed in the current issue of the orgnization's publication, "The Bulletin."

Federal war agencies like WPB and WMC have been officially warned that they must prepare [illegible] when the fighting ends in Europe, Perry writes, and it is here that the bulk of the Negro federal employes holding clerical and technical jobs are displaced. Pointing out that the pre-Pearl Harbor personnel administrator is "still in the saddle," Perry says that FEPC "has been tragically and notoriously ineffective in combatting discrimination in federal employment."

"Although custodial employes constituted less than 3 per cent of all federal workers in 1940, "he says, "90 percent of all colored people working for the government fell within that classification." The state, commerce and justice departments have been particularly guilty of restricting opportunities for Negro employes, he writes.

Perry suggests that the President can tighten the rules of the civil service commission by penalizing offeners of a fair policy, he may declare by "appropriate order" that the absence of Negroes in a department is evidence of discrimination. Cabinet officers can be charged with a responsibility, Perry concludes, and such agencies as FFPC can be strengthened.

35c-1944

Job Bias in Railway Union Pact Argued Before Supreme Court

The Peoples Voice New York, N.Y.

WASHINGTON—The U. S. Supreme Court heard arguments Tuesday in the case of Tom Tunstall and Bester William Steele, locomotive firemen, seeking to restrain two southern railroads and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen from continuing to operate under a contract because it is discriminatory. The two firemen contended, through their counsel, Charles H. Houston, that the union bars them from membership and at the same time is the sole bargaining agent for them with the railroads. The railroads named in the suit are the Louisville and Nashville and the Norfolk and Southern.

11-25-44

They also argued that the contract prohibits promotion of the Negro employees and demanded reinstatement to their positions. The union, acting for the entire class or craft of firemen, they pointed out, under the provisions of the National Railway Labor Act, had, on Feb. 28, 1941, made an agreement with a group of southern roads that not more than 50 per cent of the firemen in any seniority district are "non-promotable," and that Negroes were designated as non-promotable. This means, they contended, that the places of the Negro firemen, despite long seniority, would be taken by white firemen of less seniority.

11-25-44

The Federal Government, through Charles Fahy, Solicitor General, and Robert L. Stern, special assistant to the Attorney General and the National Labor Relations Board, intervened as "friends of the court." In a joint brief, they argued that since the union excluded Negroes from membership, it was "obviously not acting in good faith as the representative of the entire craft."

CASES ACCUMULATING

Mr. Houston told the court that under the principle of majority rule the majority could not use the government to exploit the minority. 11-25-44

Instances of the brotherhood's use of the framework of the Railway Labor Act, to discriminate against Negroes have been accumulating since 1938. According to Mr. Houston, if a Negro fireman tried to bring a case of discrimination before the adjustment board, he would have to appear before a body composed partly of employers and partly of unions which bar Negroes. Therefore, he said, unless the firemen can go to the courts for relief they have been placed in economic servitude by Congress, which passed the Railway Labor Act. 11-25-44

Attorneys for the brotherhood and the two roads had asserted that the Federal courts had no jurisdiction in the cases, and that the proper remedy was before the National Mediation Board or the adjustment board created under the Railway Labor Act. Mr. Houston contended that if a Negro fireman tried to bring a case of discrimination before the adjustment board he would have to appear before a body composed partly employers and partly of unions which bar Negroes.

JUSTICES SHOW INTEREST

The Supreme Court Justice expressed great interest in the arguments, asking the lawyers many questions. In reply to one question, Houston stated that the issue was broader than race and that if the union could bar Negroes today, it could "bar Catholics, Jews and six-feet men tomorrow." 11-25-44

"Can promotable men be black?" asked Justice Frankfurter.

"Not on the railroads of the United States," replied Harold C. Heiss, counsel for the brotherhood. "That is the policy of the roads," he added, "we have nothing to do with it." 11-25-44

The NAACP has asked permission to file a brief as a "friend of the court," supporting the firemen.

ILO Delegate Accuses U. S. Of Importing Racial Bias

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

5-6-44

By JAMES M. REED, News Editor

PHILADELPHIA—The International Labor Organization conference was electrified last Thursday afternoon when the United States Government was charged with importing its racial policy to Panama and following a policy "based on frank racial discrimination and injustice" in dealing with workers employed in building fortifications in the Canal Zone. The charges were made on the floor of the convention, holding its sessions at Temple university, by Diogenes De La Rosa, government delegate from Panama.

5-6-44

In a scathing attack on the U. S. racial policy that showed the lack of good faith in its professed "Good Neighbor policy," Senor De La Rosa declared the United States employed two wage scales, one for white workers, known as "The Gold Roll," and a second for non-whites, called "The Silver Roll." "Many Latin-Americans are included on the 'Silver Roll' and are paid less for the same work than whites on the 'Gold Roll.'

"The principle of equal pay for equal work does not apply in the Canal Zone," continued De La Rosa. "This discrimination violates an anti-discrimination agreement between the United States and Panama governments, signed in 1936."

5-6-44

Listing some of the inequalities that existed, the Panama delegate declared those on the gold roll have privileges which are not available to the silver roll workers. Chauffeurs on the gold roll are paid $1.05 an hour while nonwhite chauffeurs are paid but 75 cents an hour. Skilled Panamanians often are paid less than white apprentices or helpers.

De La Rosa told the ILO conference he will carry his case directly to President Roosevelt and Secretary of Labor Frances Perkins by presenting the U. S officials with a memorandum, asking an end to the discriminatory policy. He said the memorandum is signed by hundreds of crude and humble, but sincere Democrats now working on fortifications in the Canal Zone. 5-6-44

Delegates from 41 nations attending the conference have spent the first ten days of the conference studying voluminous reports which will be incorporated in a new international charter of social rights which they will draft.

Colored delegates are following with keen interest the fifth item on the agenda dealing with "Minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories." Actively taking part in debates on the report were Jamnadas Mehta, workers' delegate from India; E. E. Esua, general secretary of the Nigerian Union of Teachers and workers' delegate adviser in the British Empire delegation; Louis Magatte, secretary general, Federation of Trade Unions of Native Workers, French West Africa, and workers' delegate adviser in the French delegation; Sir Frederick W. Leggett, joint deputy secretary, Ministry of Labor and National Service, and British Government representative on the ILO, and J. H. Warning, director, Java-China-Japan Line Shipping company, and Employers' delegate in the Netherlands delegation.

Union Members Riot Over Negro Hiring

Peoples Voice N.Y.

12-30-44

ST. LOUIS—Opposition by white employees at the St. Louis ordnance plant to the company's hiring Negro help to fill some of the 6,400 vacancies at the plant resulted in an almost riotous meeting Sunday at Kiel auditorium where 475 workers gathered in an open meeting of the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 825.

The union previously had adopted a resolution which stated that the company should hire workers as needed, "regardless of race, color or creed." At the meeting when the union reversed this position the local's president, Otto Maschoff, and Betty Raab, secretary-treasurer, resigned their posts.

RE-AFFIRM BELIEFS

The resolution which Maschoff had introduced, stated in part: "That we reaffirm our beliefs in the policies of our union, the CIO and the nation to prevent and eliminate discrimination in employment because of race, color or creed; that the union indorse the reemployment of all laid-off members, Negro or white, and other needed workers in such departments as may be necessary to fulfill the production requirements set by the war department for our plant," then that Maschoff and Miss Raab was immediately defeated. It was get out the ammunition."

Though the resolution was resigned.

adopted, 30 minutes later when a worker rose and asked whether the resolution meant the would follow its plans, members shouted their protest. A from the floor to allow Negroes to work in the packing

William Sentner, general vice-president of the union said, "The company union is prepared to lend its full cooperation to the company and the motion government to man the plant with workers, regardless of race, creed department or color, where they are needed to

AFL Backs FEPC in First Step Against Jim Crow

PM—New York N.Y.

And Top Officials Predict Lewis And 600,000 Miners Will Come Back

11-30-44

By John T. Moutoux

Staff Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 30.—As an indication of progress within the AFL toward eliminating discrimination against Negroes—still practised by some AFL affiliates—the AFL convention here has gone on record favoring the establishment of a permanent FEPC.

This is the first time the AFL has indorsed such legislation, according to M. P. Webster, vice president of the Sleeping Car Porters, who thanked the convention for its action.

The convention action was taken in approving a report by its Resolutions Committee concurring in two resolutions on the subject, one of which had been submitted by A. Philip Randolph and Webster of the Sleeping Car Porters.

Previously, the convention had rejected, upon recommendation of the Resolutions Committee, all resolutions on the Negro question submitted to this convention by Randolph and Webster.

The Catch

There was one catch to the Resolutions Committee's report on the FEPC and that was that it also approved the executive council's section on FEPC which characterized as "most objectionable and dangerous" in their present form three pending bills calling for the creation of a permanent FEPC. Clauses in pending bills prohibit labor unions from discriminating against Negroes. Such legislation, if passed, would hit AFL affiliates that now indulge in discrimination.

In a conciliatory speech, as contrasted with Randolph's hot blasts of the day before, Webster said that if a labor union really wanted to get rid of discrimination it could do so. He cited an AFL union in Los Angeles which ended discrimination in the hiring of street car operators.

11-30-44

Webster added that all discrimination is not found in AFL unions; but that it exists in some CIO unions and is particularly flagrant in the Railroad Brotherhoods.

Quoting William Green, AFL President, as saying that 1,000,000 of the AFL's 7,000,000 members are Negroes, Webster declared that "we have a right to call on you to uphold our rights."

Meanwhile, especially among the officials, the feeling is strong that John L. Lewis and his 600,000 United Mine Workers will soon be back in the AFL again.

That was borne out when Green told PM he was confident that the jurisdictional dispute between the

A. Phillip Randolph

AFL and the UMW's District 50 over chemical workers would be settled to the satisfaction of both sides. The jurisdictional question was the chief obstacle when Lewis and the AFL failed last Spring in an attempt to bring the UMW back into the AFL.

Asked specifically if the chemical workers might not again block a settlement, Green told PM:

"That'll be worked out. I'm sure it will."

No Contact

Green said that he had not been in communication with Lewis since the UMW chief last May, in a very caustic letter, withdrew his application for reaffiliation.

Off-the-record talks with delegates and officials alike on the subject of UMW's reaffiliation invariably start out with "now that the election's over," and that usually produces a number of reasons for the present belief that the UMW and the AFL will come together this time.

Of course, a very obvious reason why the AFL would like the UMW back in its ranks is because of Lewis's 600,000 dues-paying members. The convention's Resolutions Committee itself urged reaffiliation "for the practical reason" that such action "would strengthen the American Federation of Labor, while proving helpful to the United Mine Workers."

11-30-44

Attacks NLRB

The convention itself delivered a stinging rebuke to the National Labor Relations Board for what Green termed "partiality and bias" in its decisions, and for its "reprehensible conduct."

Green and other speakers were especially bitter over a majority NLRB decision which provided for a regional instead of a national representation election among employes of the Western Union and Postal Telegraph employes.

Board member Gerard Reilly was not included in the AFL condemnation, since he supported AFL positions in the Western Union as well as other representation cases. Last week the CIO convention at Chicago called for Reilly's removal from the Board for his alleged partiality to the AFL.

The convention called for repeal of the "obnoxious" Smith-Connally Act.

11-30-44

It also demanded repeal of that section of the Smith-Connally Act prohibiting labor unions from making political contributions. The committee report pointed out that the ban does not apply to fraternal organizations, Chambers of Commerce, or manufacturers' associations and therefore discriminates against labor unions.

The convention is expected to wind up today with the re-election of all present officers and selection of next year's convention city, most likely Chicago.

Strict Seniority Perils Negro, 2d Study Shows

Daily Worker—New York N.Y.

12-2-44

Strict application of seniority rules would hit Negroes far more heavily than whites, if a 50 percent layoff hit the United Transformer Co., New York war plant, the National Negro Congress said yesterday.

The Congress, studying statistics in war plants to determine the situation of Negro workers during layoffs, examined conditions at the Sperry Gyroscope Co. earlier and found that heavy cutbacks there would eliminate a majority of Negro workers, if seniority principles—last hired, first fired—were strictly applied.

United Transformer, operating at 150 Varick St., employes Negroes in al departments. The total personnel includes 625 white workkers and 412 Negroes. These favorable ratios are due partly to management policy and partly to a nation-wide fight against discrimination waged by the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, whose Local 430 is sole bargaining agent at the plant.

PLANT-WIDE SENIORITY

Seniority at United Transformer operates on a departmental basis but is plant-wide, so that an employe who for any reason shifts from one department to another carries accumulated seniority with him.

12-2-44

The study made by the National Negro Congress of employment records as of Nov. 2 showed that in two departments, testing and laminating, the proportion of Negroes would rise in the event of strict seniority rules in a 50 percent cutback. But in every other department, under the same conditions the proportion of Negroes would fall.

Here are the department-by-department figures:

Willor Department. Employes 83, 50 percent of them Negroes. With a 50 percent layoff, the proportion of Negroes would fall from 50 to 31 percent.

Department C 410. Employs 107; 62 percent Negro. With a 50 percent cut, the proportion of Negroes would drop to 31 percent.

Department C 114. Employs 64. 48 percent Negro. A 50 percent cutback would bring the proportion of Negroes to 18 percent.

Testing department. Employs 34. 28 percent Negro. With a 50 percent layoff, the proportion of Negroes would rise to 29 percent.

Ouncers. Employs 83, 47 percent Negro. If there were a 50 percent layoff, the proportion would fall to 23 percent.

12-2-44

Laminating department. Employs 63, 24 percent Negroes. If there were a 50 percent layoff, the proportion would rise to 31 percent.

Porters. Entire department Negro.

Winding deparment. Employs 186. 30 percent Negro. On the basis of a 50 percent cutback, the proportion of Negroes would fall to 13 percent.

Power pres. Employs 49. 33 percent Negro. With a 50 percent cutback, the proportion of Negroes would fall to 16 percent.

Assembly. Employs 194, 37 percent Negro. With a 50 percent layoff the proportion of Negroes would drop to 25 percent.

35c-1944

MARCH FOR JOBS

Picketing Metropolitan Life for Jobs Is Right Kind of Marching

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By JOSEPH D. BIBB

10-7-44

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

COLORED people are now picketing the branch offices of the Metropolitan Life Insurance company and are threatening to proceed with their blazoning banners, even before the company's towering home office on Madison avenue, in the throbbing heart of the world's greatest city, New York. It is charged by the picketers, led by A. Philip Randolph and suported by his "March on Washington" organization, that the great Metropolitan Life Insurance company discriminates against colored people in regards to employment, notwithstanding the tremendous amount of business secured from them.

Mr. Bibb

Metropolitan's contemptuous attitude toward colored people, who have more than a billion dollars worth of insurance written on their lives, could not forever go on unchallenged and undefied. And it is well that Randolph marched against Metropolitan; far better than his long delayed threat to "March on Washington." He will be more strongly supported, will gain a more favorable audience throughout the country, and will, no doubt, either cause a change in the policy of Metropolitan or induce business to be twisted and shifted into other companies, maybe into colored companies.

10-7-44

WHITES GIVE BETTER SERVICE THAN NEGROES

A cross section of Metropolitan's attitude toward employing colored people was expressed many years ago, and we have witnessed no evidence of a change. A. F. Fiske, second vice-president of the company, wrote a letter to a Chicago citizen dated May 1, 1929. The letter is spread before this writer as these sentiments are being typed. We quote:

"YOU ask why we do not employ colored people to look after the large amount of business which we have in force on colored lives. The reason is, that better service is given our colored policy holders by white people than would be given by colored agents. We have tried the experiment at various times, and in sundry places of employing Negro agents.

"We found that, in the first place, they did not have the confidence of their own race which our white agents inspired, and secondly, these colored agents did not have the patience nor the industry to properly serve their own race hence, the rule for employing only white agents."

10-7-44

POLICIES CANNOT BE FOREVER TOLERATED

If these conclusions were based on truth and fact, it would be difficult to explain the phenomenal success of colored insurance companies. They weathered the storms of the depression, while many white concerns collapsed and none now question their ability to do business among their own people and with employees of their own race. Thousands of colored people are collecting debits among their own people and thousands have proved their patience, industry and intelligence. It seems that the Metropolitan company was arbitrarily and unreasonable in its attitude toward the people who have been filling their coffers since the Civil War. It is well that Randolph marched on Metropolitan.

PERHAPS, neither appeals to conscience nor pickets may cause the Metropolitan to change its policy and give employment to colored people in all of its departments, perhaps this company is too supercilious and haughty to practice economic justice, but the effect of the pickets and the appeals will be far-reaching. More than 15 years ago this reporter published the letter written to James Hale Porter of Chicago, by the Metropolitan. Fifteen years ago it was pointed out that such injustices were crushing and destructive and now Randolph marches. Fifteen years from now there may be a change in the policy of these colossal American institutions, whose arrogance and selfishness have influenced monopolies, unholy cartels, and lecherous trade alliances. Such policies had some remote influence in precipitating the World Wars. They cannot be tolerated forever.

10-7-44

American colored people will never unfetter their shackles and chains until they seek to unloose themselves. The Supreme Court of the United States has upheld the right of American citizens to conduct peaceful pickets against racial discriminations. Randolph has the moral and legal right to march on Metropolitan and he should be supported by his fellow citizens who clamor for "representation in consonance with their buying and spending power."

Federal Parley in Negro Seniority Debate

Daily Worker — New York, N. Y.

By DOROTHY LOEB

10-26-44

The first full trade union discussion on the explosive question of seniority and postwar job security for Negroes took place yesterday at the third convention of the CIO United Federal Workers at Hotel Capitol here.

The question is hot in all industries because Negroes and women, newest job recruits in virtually all fields, stand to be dismissed if seniority rules—last hired, first fired—are strictly applied during layoffs.

However, the problem is particularly acute among federal employes. Victory in Europe is expected to see an immediate sizeable drop in employment among the approximately 3,000,000 now on federal rolls. Many of these are Negroes.

After pro and con debate that occupied virtually the entire morning, the 200 delegates unanimously adopted a resolution taking frank note of the serious problems raised by strict application of seniority rules and instructed union leaders to "take whatever steps may be necessary" in conjunction with other democratic forces to bring into existence "a fair and equitable" policy.

10-26-44

PROPORTIONAL LAY-OFFS

This resolution was a substitute for a proposal from the convention resolutions committee which declared for a system of proportional lay-offs under which the present percentage of Negroes, women and returning veterans would be maintained when dismissals became necessary.

Debate for and against took place on the proportional lay-off plan with Howard Ziegenfuss of the Philadelphia Navy Yard leading the opposition and Thomas Richardson of the union's inter-racial committee, a Negro, a main spokesman for adoption.

10-26-44

Debate was on an unusually high level with all speakers making it plain that they sought only the unity of Negro and white and the strengthening of the unity of the organization.

A talk by Arthur Flemming of the U. S. Civil Service Commission, the day before, warning that large scale layoffs might be expected, particularly among the millions of war service appointees and a talk by Arthur Huff Fauset of Philadelphia, representing the National Negro Congress, yesterday, set the stage for debate.

10-26-44

A NATIONAL PROBLEM

Fauset warned that failure to come to grips with this question would not create a problem for Negroes only but for the entire labor movement because it would split solidarity, turn loose a reservoir of unemployed who could be exploited against the unions and creating a situation that would destroy the usefulness of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Ziegenfuss said he opposed the plan because he felt it impugned the union's confidence in postwar full employment and endangered seniority, a mainstay of trade unionism. He said he feared proportional layoffs would weaken rather than strengthen racial unity.

When the substitute resolution was proposed, he and others who had joined him, withdrew opposition and urged unanimous acceptance.

10-26-44

Many Negro delegates spoke. All were for proportional lay-off.

MUST LAY-OFFS HIT NEGROES HARDEST?

Wage + New York, N. York, Pa

By LORENZO DAVIS

4-15-44

"Cut-backs" or stoppage in production due to loss of contracts and reconversion for making new types of war products, have already caused many way plants of this area to lay-off large numbers of workers. These dismissals, sometimes temporary but often permanent, promise to become increasingly prevalent as America takes the offensive and moves toward the invasion of Europe. Already this year there have been such lay-offs in at least five major war plants of Brooklyn and Long Island involving close to five thousand workers of whom many were Negroes

Being greatly concerned with the industrial status of Brooklyn's Negro workers now and after the war, I cannot help but compare the effects upon them of past "cutbacks" to the results of the mass lay-offs that may or may not come with an armistice in Europe or a general Axis defeat. Whether there is to be unemployment or full-employment even after the armistice, depends upon the intelligence and over-all scope of planning now.

But it still holds true that although there has been much said and written of plans for continued maximum production and employment after the war by national management and labor organizations, none has yet specifically or even subtly mentioned consideration of the continued participation of the Negro worker. This is so in spite of the fact that Negro industrial workers as a group are potentially the first to be affected by such lay-offs, if merely upon application of the widely-accepted industrial principal of "seniority."

It is common knowledge that the Negro worker has had little opportunity to acquire any mass "seniority" or length of employment relative to that enjoyed by white workers, because of racial discrimination practiced against him in employment. This same discrimination which kept Negro workers out of war employment, destroying the chances of accumulating "seniority," and causing them to be the last hired, will be exercised again by many yet "unconverted" employers to get rid of Negro workers as completely, and as soon as possible, with decreasing manpower needs.

Failure To Uupgrade

Likewise the too frequent failure of employers to fairly upgrade or consider and remedy the precarious advance Negroes to deserved jobs situation of Negro workers in question of responsibility has considerably mechanical ment, in es- ity" in this tions of mass-dismissals. that the same lessened their chances of retaining It is reported that this union, Lo- their jobs as "indispensable or key cal 252 of the United Electrical, workers would be laid off as white workers," in the event of mass lay- Radio and Machine Workers of workers, no more and no less, in- offs. America (CIO) organized in the stead of dismissing all the Negro From a union local in Bridgeport, Dupont Remington Arms plant, do a great deal to demonstrate to Conn., alone, to may knowledge, workers in the plant as strict when informed by the management "seniority" in the plant as the Negro worker that he is defin- that 3,000 workers must be laid off, "seniority" would have dictated in- this case, the first indication of a itely included in post-war plan- The United Electrical, ning, and thereby bolster his con-

idence in his industrial future during and after the war. 4-15-44

The Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department intends to find out from the three aforementioned groups whether such action can be started in Brooklyn this year.

Witnesses Testify Seamen's Union Drew Rigid Color Line

World — Memphis, Tenn.
10-20-44

Vicious Practices Are Bared At FEPC Hearing Held In New York

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Instances where Negroes were refused employment on some ships when they had been referred to the union by the War Shipping Administration's recruitment and manning organization and instances where Negroes were restricted to the steward's quarters on some ships and where qualified whites were not allowed to work in certain departments because Negroes manned them, were among the discriminatory practices by the seafarers international union of North America, witnesses cited last week in a public hearing was termed one sided because Attorney Richard M. Cantor, said the union would not participate in the proceedings because it did not recognize the committee's authority.

10-20-44

Cantor charged the FEPC with trying to "bamboozle the union." He said that the accusations were "absurd, and silly on their face, because they allege discrimination against both races." Cantor added that the charged instances had not adversely affected the war program. During a recess, the attorney indicated that union representatives would readily "sit down and talk things over without all this formality."

When Chairman Malcolm Ross offered to name a date for an informal hearing, union men declined the offer.

Seamen have complained aaginst the union's discriminatory practices for more than a year, the committee's trial attorney, Emanuel Block, said at the trial. In listening to witnesses, Block presented a number of exhibits, letters from steamship companies, which said that they had never practiced bias of segregation. 10-20-44

Block's charges were supported by Edward Lawson, regional director of the FEPC, the first witness. After Lawson appeared on the witness stand, a number of seamen, both white and Negro, were called and each testified that the mixed crews had labored together harmoniously and without friction. Both in training school and aboard ship, the men entertained pleasant relations, the seamen said. Some of the Negro seamen told how they had rejected at the union hiring hall despite referral slips.

10-20-44

Cantor termed the union's practice "segregation" rather than discrimination. The union merely observed a policy that it always held, the separation of white and Negro seamen, he declared.

After a study of the compiled facts, by the committee, if no agreement is reached between union officials and the FEPC, the findings will be publicized and President Roosevelt will certify the entire issue.

Dixie Lawyers Protest Union's F.E.P.C. Contract

Afro American
Baltimore, Md. 11-25-44

NEW YORK (ANP) — Eight prominent white Southern lawyers signed a brief filed in the U.S. Supreme Court by the American Civil Liberties Union protesting the right of trade unions to discriminate against colored workmen in collective bargaining contracts with employers. Md.

The brief supports the suit of two colored firemen, Tom Tunstall and Bester Steele, against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and two Southern railroads to invalidate jim-crow contracts.

For the preservation of basic democratic principles, the brief asked that deprivation of the right to work on account of race, which was the issue in this case, be declared unlawful.

LARY Bows to FEPC; Will Hire Colored Operators

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-19-44

By J. ROBERT SMITH

LOS ANGELES, Calif.—Representatives of the Los Angeles Railway Company, at a very late hour Wednesday night, agreed to bring its hiring policies into conformity with the President's Executive Order 8802, outlawing discrimination in employment.

The action followed the issuance of an order by the Fair Employment Practice Committee immediately after the close of its hearings here, directing the company to "cease and desist" from its refusal to hire colored persons and to promote those qualified to be motormen, conductors and bus drivers.

The agreement was reached in a closed conference held in the local FEPC offices between company officials, representatives of the union and members of the committee.

Under the agreement, the street railway company will take immediate steps leading to compliance with the order, working in co-operation with the FEPC regional director.

Labor Priority to be Restored

The FEPC agreed also to recommend to the War Manpower Commission that the company's labor priority rights, removed on March 24 last, be restored to it.

A statement issued by the committee following the conference said: 8-19-44

"It is understood that reasonable time will be necessary to eliminate the discriminatory practices found to exist, but if after a reasonable time the discriminatory practices have not been eliminated, the committee will take affirmative action to obtain compliance."

Following issuance of the statement, members of the committee entrained for San Francisco.

Hearings Opened Monday

The FEPC opened its three-day hearing in the State Building here Monday before an overflow crowd.

Under investigation were the alleged discriminatory hiring practices of the city's railway system (LARY) which has no colored motormen or conductors and four West Coast shipyards accused of being in collusion with the AFL Boilermakers' Union in denying full membership to colored workers. 8-19-44

Hubbard Fires Opening Gun

Opening gun in the railway case was fired by Maceo Hubbard, Philadelphia FEPC counsel, who drew from Mrs. Cortez Strange, senior U.S. Employment Service interviewer, the information that despite calls for workers, the company would hire colored men only as yardmen.

Mrs. Strange testified that she had frequently tried to get J. I. Finn, placement manager of LARY, to accept colored applicants.

Witnesses Support Charges

Supporting charges of discrimination against the transit company were the following who were denied jobs: 8-19-44

Mrs. Nora Sladen, 26, former conductor with the San Francisco Municipal Railway, who also instructed white and colored learners in that city and who testified she was told by Finn, "I am from the South and colored people are happier in domestic work;

James A. Herod, father of six children, who sought a job as motorman, but was told colored men were only acceptable as porters;

Job Bias Admitted

J. Stuart Neary, counsel for the company, who admitted that colored persons had been denied jobs as motormen and conductors, but contended that upgrading to these jobs would result in a work stoppage similar to last week's Philadelphia situation.

He said that if the company was required to end this discrimination, the government should assume responsibility.

Lockheed Gives Lie to Claim

Paul Wetcher, white, gave the lie to Los Angeles Railway Company's contention that a strike would follow the hiring or upgrading of colored persons to positions of street-car conductors or motormen shortly before the Fair Employment Practice Committee ended its hearings here Tuesday. 8-19-44

Mr. Wetcher, assistant personnel manager at Lockheed Aircraft, one of the plants cited before the FEPC three years ago, told the committee that today Lockheed hires more than 3,000 colored workers in all capacities such as clerks, stenographers and typists as well as in the skilled and semi-skilled field.

"We have no separate this or that in the plant," he added. "Everyone uses the same facilities and we have no racial problems. There have been no strikes, threats or work stoppages." ployment success.

In an interview with this correspondent, Chairman Ross, at the close of the hearings, said:

"I am very much satisfied that we have gotten down to the basis of the whole thing, and if they do something about it before an order is issued, everything will be all right.

CAN SOLVE COLORED QUESTION BY LAW

The Philadelphia street car strike has been settled. The Federal Government forced the strikers to return to work and denied their demands to halt training of colored motormen. Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

Last week colored men began operating trolleys in Philadelphia.

The well-meaning, who say that the color question cannot be settled by law, are those who are afraid of law.

New York has 1117 colored trolley or bus operators. San Francisco, 225; Chicago, 183; Buffalo, 16; Cleveland, 11; Detroit, 1150.

Last week Los Angeles agreed to permit colored men to operate trolleys. Washington, Richmond and Baltimore still hold out. 8-26-44

Chauffeuring a trolley car differs little from driving a truck or an auto. Persons with less than a 100 I.Q. can do it well. Fact is, it is an excellent job for 4-Fs.

Women can run street cars. All male able-bodied street car operators ought to be transferred to other necessary war work.

35c-1944

A.F.L.

Transit Union Elects Anti-Negro Prexy

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

On Eve of Scheduled FEPC Hearings Group In Questionable Move

12-23-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON (NNPA)—Almost on the eve of the scheduled FEPC hearings on discrimination against Negroes by the Capital Transit Company of this city, Division 689 of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, AFL, holding a union contract with the company, elected a new president who campaigned on an anti-Negro platform.

The new president, W. S. Sims, will take office on January 6. The FEPC hearings are scheduled to begin on January 15.

The position of the local president is directly opposite of the stated position of the international union of AASERMCEA. In a letter written two years ago by W. D. Mahon, international president, to the then president of the local union, the position of the international body was declared to be "not to discriminate against a fellow worker on account of creed, color or nationality." He urged that this policy be kept in mind when dealing with the Capital Transit matter.

12-23-44

Sims received 1,324 votes of the total of 2,527 cast in the election. J. G. Bigelow, retiring president, received 823. G. Rembolt received 380. There are 546 Negroes employed by the Capital Transit Company as mechanics and track laborers. Most of them are members of the union. No record of how they voted was available.

35c-1944

Alabama

Supreme Court Will Review Negro L.&N. Fireman's Case

Advertiser - Montgomery, Ala.

5-30-44

WASHINGTON, May 29.—(AP)—The Supreme Court granted reviews today to two cases instituted by negro locomotive firemen. One protested he was forced out of his job and replaced by a white man; the other contended discrimination against him by his employer and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen.

Bester William Steele, fireman on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, contended negro firemen were excluded from the brotherhood and stated it had been "persistently hostile to the negro firemen and has sought to drive them out of (railroad) service in order to create a monopoly of employment or the best jobs for its own members."

Steele complained the union and the railroad has entered into an agreement adversely affecting seniority rights of negro firemen and insisted that the brotherhood, by accepting the designation as representative of the entire craft or class of firemen under the Railway Labor Act, was under duty to represent him impartially. 5-30-44

The Alabama Supreme Court dismissed Steele's suit, holding that the railroad has a right to enter into a contract with a majority of employes in a specified classification, even though the contract may affect "detrimentally" a negro minority. The State court also decided that Congress had made no effort to control the matter of seniority rights.

Tom Tunstall, fireman on the Norfolk Southern, contended the brotherhood made an agreement with the railroad which destricted employment of "non-promotable" firemen and helpers. Under present rules, Tunstall told the court, negro firemen are "non-promotable." He asserted the union induced the railroad to remove him from his job and to give his place to a brotherhood member. 5-30-44

The Eastern Virginia Federal District Court previously dismissed Tunstall's complaint. The Fourth Federal Circuit Court on his appeal decided it had no jurisdiction.

35c-1944

Alabama

L&N EMPLOYS MEN DESPITE DEFI OF FEPC

Given Jobs In Mobile And New Orleans First Time Since 1917

By JOHN LE FLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala. — Notning less than another civil war if Negro firemen were employed as locomotive firemen in Dixie was the dire prediction of Southern railroads in reply to a recent Fair Employment Practices Committee order to that effect yet . . .

Since mid-December no less than 16 Negro firemen have been hired by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Company both here and in New Orleans without any resulting racial outbreaks.

Although the L and N Railroad was one of the 16 Dixie railroads which signed the defiant statement challenging the FEPC directive for employment of Negro rail workers, the colored firemen were hired since the order and have been working for almost a month now.

Break Long Precedent

For the first time in 17 years a newly-employed Negro fireman was included as a member of the train crew of an L and N train out of this city on Thursday night, December 16. Not since 1927 had this happened.

Since then eleven more men, including several who have had no previous experience, have been employed as firemen in this city, and five in New Orleans, according to Cyrille Salvant, veteran colored passenger train fireman and militant leader of the International Association of Railway Employees in this section.

General Foreman R. E. McWilliams of Sibert yards, where the L and N shops are located here, verified the report of employment of Negroes as firemen on the New Orleans and Mobile division.

When questioned as to whether Negro firemen are being employed on other L and N divisions, McWilliams said he did not know. However, Salvant stated that as far as he knew colored men are being employed in such capacity only on the New Orleans and Mobile division.

He said that he had no knowledge of any of the other roads opening firemen jobs to Negroes

Negro's Case Against Union Up For Action

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Bester William Steele, Alabama Negro fireman employed by the Louisville and Nashville Railroad for 33 years, took his case against the union in which he charges labor discrimination, to the United States Supreme Court Monday.

The case, in which the plaintiff alleges that the union involved degraded him from fireman to a lower post and replaced him with a white man of less seniority, had been tried in the Circuit Court of Jefferson County and the Alabama Supreme Court. Claiming that neither court had acted sufficiently toward ending labor discrimination, Steele is taking his csae to the highest court of the land through his attorney, Charles H. Houston, Negro.

The Broherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen was charged at the opening hearings with refusing membership to Negroes and with attempting to drive them out of jobs, even though it is the official bargaining agent for all firemen.

Charging conspiracy and fraud, Houston asserted that Steele had been degraded from the job of fireman and replaced with a white man of less seniority.

Circuit and State Courts had based their decisions on the ground that the Railway Labor Act placed mandatory duty upon the railroad company to bargain with representatives selected by the majority of a class or craft of employes. The court held that the facts alleged did not sustain the charge of conspiracy between the railroad and the brotherhood to defraud Negroes of their seniority and other rights.

35c-1944

Arizona

Copper Mine Race Bias Hit In Pay Order

PM-New York, N.Y.
2-13-44

WLB Commission Acts To End Discrimination

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Feb. 12.—Discrimination against Mexican, Indian and Negro workers in Arizona copper mines is condemned in a decision just rendered to the WLB (War Labor Board) by its Nonferrous Metals Commission composed of public, management and labor members.

The decision reveals that a discriminatory wage pattern has prevailed in the three companies under consideration, and orders steps taken toward elimination of discriminatory practices. The WLB is expected to affirm the Commission's findings.

The case grew out of complaints brought by the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO, against the Miami Copper Co., the International Smelting and Refining Co. and the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Co. The decision is regarded by labor as precedent-making. It is expected that the Phelps-Dodge Copper Co. in Arizona, whose discriminatory wage policies are worse, the CIO says, than those in the above companies, will be compelled to fall in line.

2-13-44

The Commission concluded that all rates below $6.36 per shift are "racially discriminatory." These are rates for workers other than miners. Pay for a large proportion of the minority group workers in the three companies ranged between $5.21 and $5.56 per shift. Rates for such workers in the Phelps-Dodge properties are $5.16. The Commission did not order an immediate $6.36 minimum, but directed the companies to discontinue all wage rates below $5.88 per shift.

The Commission found that "complete and immediate elimination from the largest industry in the area of all wage rates that may be said to be discriminatory as such could not fail to have serious repercussions." It therefore decided the elimination should be accomplished in two stages, of which the present decision is the first.

There are 3221 employes in the companies involved. Of that number 28 per cent belong to the minority groups, largely Mexican, both citizen and non-citizen.

Los Angeles Race Dispute Up to FEPC

8-10-44

Company and Union Both Suggest U. S. Action

8-10-44

Special Correspondence

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 10.—Discrimination against Negroes in the operation of the Los Angeles Railway Co.'s trolley lines won't be stopped until the Federal Government steps in, backing up its directives with enforcement powers to prevent a West Coast recurrence of the late strike which paralyzed Philadelphia's transit system last week.

This was the theme of testimony by both management men and union officials at the one-day inquiry by the Fair Employment Practices Committee. Both groups insisted they were opposed to the discrimination and both insisted that rank-and-file strikes would follow if operating jobs were opened to Negroes.

Need Operators

J. Stewart Nearing, railways counsel, was cross-examined at length by FEPC members who brought out that during a typical rush period 167 cars and 32 buses were idle due to a shortage of operators. Nearing testified that Mexicans, Indians and other non-white workers were used, admitting the possibility that some Negroes might be "getting by" posing as Mexicans or Indians.

Asked by Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, how he thought the Government should handle the situation, Neary replied:

"By control of availability certificates, by invoking Smith-Connally sanctions, by revoking draft deferments and other measures. The company has no means of preventing workers from leaving the job wholesale. In Philadelphia many claimed they were sick. The Government has such means."

Paradoxical

8-10-44

Roy D. McClurg, president of Local 1277, Amalgamated Street, Electric Railway and Motor Car Operators, AFL, said all members were pledged "never to discriminate against any fellow worker because of color, race or creed," despite which a recent poll in one district showed that 87 per cent of the workers "said they would quit or strike if Negroes were upgraded."

McClurg said the union had made an effort to educate its members by calling one membership meeting at which Mayor Fletcher Bowron and various film stars were invited to speak. He asserted that some of the speeches were so "inflammatory" that they angered members of the audience and made the situation worse.

8-10-44

"This problem is too big for one local union," he concluded. "It is nationwide and we need national help to solve it."

Discrimination On Jobs Admitted

World Telegram N.Y.; N.Y.

8-9-44

By the United Press.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 9.—White employees of the Los Angeles Railway Corp. would quit their jobs if Negro operators were hired, company and labor representatives told a Presidential fair employment practices committee yesterday.

"Our failure to hire Negroes for platform service was in fear of a mass work stoppage in protest by other employees," Company Attorney J. Stuart Neary told the hearing.

8-9-44

The labor leader said the union had started an education campaign early this year to orient white employees to accept Negroes as fellow employees.

Say Failure to Use Negroes Hinders L. A. War Effort

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

3-17-44

NEW YORK CITY.—The Los Angeles Railway company is operating slightly more than 50% of its equipment in the face of unprecedented demands for more efficient transportation service, it was reported by Reginald A. Johnson, field secretary of the National Urban League.

Completing a two months' survey of conditions in West Coast industrial centers, Johnson explained that the persistent refusal of the railway company to employ and upgrade Negro and Mexican workers was entirely responsible for the transportation bottleneck in the California metropolis.

The company's policy in this respect remains unaltered despite action of the FEPC and several responsible public and private organizations whose chief concern is improving the company's inadequate service to thousands of war workers in the area.

For a number of years, according to Johnson, Negroes have sought jobs as operators, platform workers, and bus drivers with the Los Angeles company. Officials of the company have always taken the position that the public and their white employees were unwilling to accept Negroes as platform workers, although it was well known that in Detroit, Cleveland, and New York, Negroes were successfully employed in this capacity.

3-17-44

Early in 1943, it was said, the transportation problem became extremely acute. At one time it was reliably stated that the company's manpower shortage was upwards of 600 workers in the operating department alone. More than 50 street cars and many of the buses operated by the company remained idle daily. Meanwhile, the company hired and upgraded green and inexperienced white mechanics and operators and refused to promote Negroes beyond the grades of laborers and helpers.

That the company had also failed to comply with its pledge to eliminate discriminatory employment pracitces was obvious, Johnson reported. Following a series of conferences in which company and union officials made a joint commitment to conform to the requirements of Executive Order 8802, it was understood that appropriate steps would be taken to employ enough workers to man the cars and buses. The company's efforts in this direction were described as feeble, sporadic and noticeably timid.

3-17-44

Officials of the National Urban League said the whole question of employment of Negroes in the transit service in Los Angeles, Washington, D. C., and Philadelphia would again be placed before the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

35c-1944 CIO

N.Y. Amsterdam News 5bc

Charts Ne/ Course In Race Issue.

New York's fiery Mayor, F.H. LaGuardia. Liberal Catholic Bishop Shell through thunderous applause told the 1,000 Negro and white delegates that American democracy will never come to full flower until discrimination against Negroes and Jews and all minority groups is erased from national and personal lives."

Calling upon labor to strike a "telling blow" against discrimination, Bishop Shell advised that "any discrimination tears into shreds the solidarity of the human race and makes a mockery of the Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Christ. We have asked the Negro and the Jew to fight and die for democracy; it would be the basest cynicism to refuse to share it with them that democracy."

'Extensive Resolution'

The convention adopted a resolution calling for an extensive organization program among the workers of the South. R.J. Thomas, president of the United Auto Workers Union, urged an Immediate drive in this section as a primary step in breaking down the barrier that exists between the races.

The convention reported an over all increase in membership during the year of more than 600,000. To date out of the approximate six million CIO members, / more than 500,000 are negroes

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Charts New Course On Race Issue

Amsterdam News
N.Y., N.Y.
12-2-44

CIO Confab Speakers Stress Need of Ending All Forms of Job Bias

CHICAGO (ANP)—Charting a new course in industrial racial relations the seventh constitutional convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations meeting at Chicago's Stevens hotel this week adopted resolutions recommending that all CIO unions "seek the incorporation into collective bargaining agreements a provision that no person seeking employment shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, color or place of origin."

This resolution followed a report of CIO President Philip Murray, who stated that through the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination more than 85 committees in state, county and City CIO councils have been organized since 1943.

Murray Outlines Fight

"As this program develops," Murray declared, "it is providing an additional aid in creating a much needed impetus to the development of local and state leadership. For the development of sound racial policies in our affiliated unions, the best technique is to have local and state groups working out the solution of their own problems within the frame-work of the policies established by the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination."

Reinforced by this program of action, the first three days of the convention declared open season against racial and religious intolerance in CIO American life.

Other Speakers

Among the speakers to direct attention to the problems of democratic citizenship were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, Rabbi Louis Binstock, the Rev. Archibald J. Carey and Bishop Bernard J. Shell, of the Catholic Church.

35c-1944

D. C.

Her Color Revealed, Girl Streetcar Operator Fired

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

She Operates Car on Fourteenth Street Line for Five Months Before Discovery

2-5-44

WASHINGTON

Proof that the Capital Transit Company not only has no intention of employing colored persons as motormen or conductors but even fires experienced "whites" when it is revealed that they have 1/100th per cent colored blood was revealed to the AFRO this week.

A young woman, whose name is being withheld, who had operated a streetcar efficiently on the Fourteenth Street line since September, was fired without a moment's notice Monday when the company learned of her racial identity, it is reported.

The case was referred to the Fair Employment Practice Committee Friday by Rufus G. Byars, chairman of the Elks' civil liberties committee.

Not Queried on Race

The young woman told the AFRO Tuesday that she had applied for a job with the company in answer to an advertisement, was given an extensive course of training and assigned to several runs, including the Fourteenth Street line.

"I made no effort to conceal my racial identity," she said; "the question just never came up," added the buxom, blue-eyed girl, a native of Virginia and a former clerk in a local Peoples' Drug Store.

She experienced no embarrassment, she added, beyond being peeved at unbecoming references to colored people made by some of her fellow employees.

She found it amusing, she declared, when some of the male employees, while telling of their dislike for colored people, attempted to date her up.

She Blames Neighbor

The young woman stated that she held her job without difficulty until she was "betrayed" by a neighbor who had seen her operating the car. The neighbor allegedly applied for a similar job at the Transit Company office and, refused, she allegedly declared:

"I don't see why you can't hire me when you have a colored girl working for you."

2-5-44

When her identity was disclosed, the young woman said, she was called to the office and fired without further notice or cause.

Car Operator's Firing Because of Race Termed Sabotage of War Aim

Tribune - Washington, D.C.

3-11-44

Dismissal of a colored woman trained as a street-car operator by the Capital Transit Company recently when her race became known this week, was termed "an anti-war policy" and "sabotage of of the war effort" in an open letter from the Committee on Jobs for Negroes in Public Utilities to E. D. Merrill, president of Capital Transit.

The letter signed by W. J. Johnson, chairman of the committee, and May A. Logan, secretary, emphasized that the woman passed her training period successfully and for several months operated a street-car efficiently, but was fired just because she was a Negro.

"We wish to protest this action on your part as undemocratic," said the letter, "as in direct opposition to the winning of the war, and the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, and flagrant violation of the stabilization plan concerning hiring, referring, and firing of employees, drawn up by the War Manpower Commission for this area.

Hiss address centered around the nucleus of "unfinished business," not only in the United States, but also in the Carribean countries. He directed attention to the beginning of the degradation of Negroes when Europeans first started the slave trade nearly 500 years ago and emphasized that although literal slavery had been abolished long ago there still remained the unfinished business of correcting poverty, segregation, and exploitation of the colored peoples of the world.

Vets' Education Bill

Dr. Logan told the audience about the bill for the education of discharged soldiers which is now before Congress. This bill specifies that every person who has served for not less than ninety days shall receive education at the expense of the Government for one year and that each State shall determine whether or not this period of Government education shall be extended to more than one year.

3-11-44

He pointed out the fact that this latter part of the bill would to the disadvantage of the Negro and urged each veteran to fight that clause and insist on a period of four years of Government education. He concluded his speech with this ringing sentence. "Keep up the fight until every man shall walk the earth an equal of the other."

Bitterly Oppose Aid To Workers

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

9-14-44

WASHINGTON — (ANP) —Fearing that the Negro will be tempted to accept federal aid in the post-war period rather than work, Dixie congressmen last week made a vigorous protest against the proposed federal post-war unemployment benefit plan.

Leading opposition to the plan, which might favor 3,000,000 federal workers, was Sen. Walter F. George, a Georgia Democrat, and author of a state rights unemployment bill. Beside a fellow Georgian, Rep. Gibson, George was supported in the house by four Alabama Democrats, Reps. Manasco, Andrews, Newsome and Grant. The Alabamians contend their state is capable of continuing its unemployment compensation system.

AGAINST DOLE

"I definitely and bitterly oppose the spending of public funds," Gibson said, "for a class of people who have enjoyed the greater benefits and reaped the biggest gain that was has brought to anyone. I favor taking care of our soldiers, but the day of public dole has ended."

9-14-44

The principal reason for this mass opposition from southern congressmen is said to be a common fear Negroes, who constitute the bulk of the low-income group, will accept federal unemployment benefits rather than accept jobs that pay less than they will receive from the government.

Other southern congressmen who are lined up with the opposition to the federal unemployment benefit plan are Rep. Rankin, Mississippi; Rep. Colmer, chairman of the house post-war planning committee, Miss.; Rep. Gore, Tenn.; and Rep. McKenzie, La.

HITS AID TO WORKERS

9-14-44

Rankin said that workers in federally controlled shipyards and war plants should not receive unemployment benefits to the exclusion of "our toiling farmers and small business who have borne the brunt of this war and furnished a large proportion of their and small businessmen who have borne the brunt of this war and furnished a large proportion of their sons to our fighting forces."

While Rankin is opposed to unemployment benefits for shipyard workers, Gibson and Gore are opposed to the plan covering federal workers. Rep. McKenzie expressed the fear that large groups of low-paid southern workers will stop work altogether if federal unemployment benefits payments are high, thereby "creating a labor shortage for the simple reason that people wouldn't want to work."

9-14-44

"Let's set big unemployment doles if we want to bankrupt this country," declared Manasco, "Large payments would only encourage idleness in the south. Someday, we're going to realize somebody's got to pay taxes to keep this country running.

Few Raises For Negro Girls In Government Departments

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

11-26-44

WASHINGTON—(A N P) — The mission are specific and definite in this matter.

greatest difficulty colored girls have working in the government is getting a pay raise. One girl as employed at $1,440 a year, seems that she is doomed to stay in that classification forever. Numerous complaints are being filed all over the city against the supervisors who refuse to see that their colored charges' pay is raised in a manner similar to that the whites receive. Few white girls remain in this classification longer than is necessary for them to become orientated to their work. But Negroes find it exceedingly difficult to get out of this classification or to get a raise generally. Many supervisors feel that the average Negro is worth only what his initial pay may be and there are no automatic raises, although the rules of the civil service com-

PERMITTED TO RESIGN

One colored girl who had been in the department for nearly 10 years was getting $1620 and when she asked for a raise to put her on a par with numbers of whites who had come in at the same time and were receiving $2,100 per annum, she was permitted to resign rather than get the requested raise.

Under the present withholding tax system, the retirement fund receives absolute insistance from the almost all departments where purchased, with each increase.

SERIOUS PROPORTIONS

The matter has reached serious proportions among the colored girls. They are being told outright that their present rate of pay is as high as they will get—insinuations to that effect that color has a lot to do with it. The situation is true in nearly all departments where the lesser amount—numbers of colored girls work.

Not only are they given the run

due to the increase as the no benefit from the retirement fund also rises with

"squeezes" such as contributions to the Community funds, a worker has little left for his own personal expenses. their present rate of pay the "in-grade" pay raise. an increase of $100 the effect that color has a lot to out their semi-month- do with it. The situation is true and the almost all departments where bond be purchased, with each increase.

additional "squeeze" tributions to the

around in the matter of pay, but they are retained on the same positions, seldom transferred to more pleasant work, and never to higher paying jobs.

General dissatisfaction is being registered by the employes, which is reflected in their work—the supervisors blame them for poor work absenteeism and they in turn say they are not as interested as they could be because of the indifference on the part of the supervisors and the unfairness of the promotional and pay raise system now in vogue.

WMC Knifes Order For D. C. Negro Bus Drivers

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

8-19-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON — (NNPA) —The War Manpower Commission in the Washington area this week struck a mortal blow to the two-year-old efforts to get the Capital Transit Company here to comply with the President's executive order against race discrimination in employment.

In a sneak move which went almost unnoticed, the D. C. War Manpower Commission area director, Ernest Connolly, on recommendation of the area labor-management committee, extended to the Capital Transit Company and four other individual concerns, the privilege of hiring employees outside of the United States Employment Service office. Prior to this move, the CTC had been given the highest priority rating yet issued by the WMC.

The contrary action of the WMC area office in Philadelphia broke the resistance of the Philadelphia Transit Company it must comply with the regulations requiring nondiscriminatory hiring.

8-19-44

Winks at Violators

A clause authorizing the imposition of sanctions on the Los Angeles Railway company through the California WMC was an effective instrument in getting that company to agree, after hearings held by the FEPC last week, to cease discriminating against Negroes as operators and platform employees.

Instead of following these examples in Washington, however, the local WMC has winked at the violations of the Capital Transit Company, and extended it its highest priorities and privileges.

The Capital Transit Company was ordered by the FEPC to bring its hiring policies in line with the Executive Order 8802 (now 9346) on November 30, to be effective December 5, 1942. On December 15, 1942, War Manpower Commissioner Paul V. McNutt addressed the white operators and company officials, asking for their cooperation in carrying out the order. The company's promise on December 22, 1943 to carry out the order was given wide publicity.

8-19-44

Refuse Instructions

For two months, no Negroes were hired, however. Then on Feb. 1, 1943, B. A. Simmons, a college graduate, was accepted for training; when he reported for training on street cars, 16 white operators, all members of the Amalgamated Association of Street, Railway and Motor Coach Employees of America, Local 689, AFL, refused to instruct him because he was a Negro.

The company removed him from its employees as a operator-trainee and offered him a job as a porter. No further move to hire a Negro has been made, though the company did unknowingly hire a Negro woman who was mistaken for white, and fired her as soon as it was discovered she was colored, even though she had become a successful operator.

Granting of special hiring privileges outside the United States Employment Service to the Capital Transit Company is the culmination of a long series of violations of the WMC's own regulations by high and low officials.

8-19-44

The Capital Transit Company has consistently sent to the U. S. Employment Service orders for white operators and platform men and women only. It has maintained a representative 'in the Employment Service office, paid by the company but all other expenses on the government and the public, who is instructed to seek only white men and women for operator and platform jobs.

No Capital Transit Company order for operators and platform men ever have been referred to the "colored placement section" of the D. C. Employment Service office where applicants are required to stand in separate lines to approach the master-file desk.

35c-1944

Florida

Sought Jobs In War Plants, But Section Objects

World — Memphis Tenn.

Police Take Passengers Off Buses, Trains

6-16-44

CAMDEN, N. J.(ANP) — "The Campbell Soup Co., will be unable to hire that fine group of Negro laborers that worked in its plant last year," James E. Heap Jr., employment manager of the company told the Camden Y's Men's Club Friday after it was learned that southern Negroes were being intimidated and held incommunicado in jail to prevent them from going to South Jersey to work in war plants. The method is akin to one employed in the Great Migration of southern workers from the south just succeeding World War I.

"Last summer the 500 Negroes who worked in our Camden plants were the finest group of employes we ever had," Heap related.

"This year southern employers have cooked up tremendous resistance against the repeated migration of the Negroes to South Jersey. These employes don't want to run into a tight labor market and, of course, we can't blame them for that. But the situation remains that there is still unemployment in the south and that some very interesting methods are being used in Florida to hold Negroes there.

6-16-44

If a Negro buys a ticket and gets on a bus or trolley and there is a suspicion that he is leaving the state, he is taken off the conveyance by plainsclothesmen who take him to police headquarters where he is held for questioning."

"Under Florida law an arrested man can be held for 72 hours. After the first 72 hours are up he can automatically be held for another 72 hours. Many of these men are held incommunicado.

"Another method to hold the Negro in Florida is for police to run their automobiles through the Negro districts sirens screaming. These visits by the police are periodic."

35c-1944

General

22 Leaders Call on AFL Union to End Jimcrow

Daily Worker- New York, N.Y.
2-4-44

An appeal to the AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, now in convention at Kansas City, Kan., to drop its Jim Crow policies, went out yesterday from 22 Negro leaders representing virtually every walk of life.

Signers include such noted figures as Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, famous education, Lucius Harper, editor, Chicago Defender, Dr. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., and many others.

They addressed a special appeal asking the Boilermakers to abandon their traditional policy of segreating Negro members into auxiliary lodges, a practice which is already under fire by locals in California and in the courts there, in Portland, Ore., and Providence, R. I.

NATIONAL UNITY IS ISSUE

Convention decisions will have a vital bearing on the most significant question of the day—how to achieve maximum national unity to win the war, the Negro leaders wrote the AFL delegates.

But national unity, they said, is imperiled by racial and religious conflict and they cited recent disturbances at Detroit, Boston, Los Angeles and Mobile as warning signals.

Their letter notes that unprecdented gains have been made in the past 12 months in the direction of integrating the Negro people in the industrial and political life of the nation and credits some of this progress to the efforts of organized labor groups.

"It is to be regretted, however, that the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers has not yet been found among those that have helped to strengthen national unity by taking a patriotic stand against discrimination," the Negro leaders said. 2-4-44

"Unfortunately, the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers is still among that rapidly decreasing group of unions that maintain auxiliary (separate) locals for their Negro membership."

APPEAL TO UNION

Three hundred thousand Boilermakers Union members are producing for victory and over 50,000 members fight along with Negro citizens in the armed forces, the writers told the convention.

"In the spirit of these members in the fighting forces," they wrote, "we appeal to the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers in convention assembled to eliminate the pactice of segregating your Negro members in auxiliary locals.

"We urge, instead, that a policy be adopted of integrating equally all members into the regular locals of the union. We are confident that endorsing this action by your convention will be welcomed not only by the membership of your union but by the nation as well."

Besides those already listed, signers include: 2-4-44

Miss Elsie Austin, national president, Delta Sigma Theta Sorority; **W. A. Bell**, president, Miles Memorial College; **Charles A. Collins**, executive secretary, Negro Labor Victory Committee; **Conkin P. Collum**, attorney, president, Cleveland Council, National Negro Congress.

Charles H. Houston, attorney, Washington, D. C.; **W. L. Huston**, attorney, Washington, D. C.; **Rev. W. H. Jernagin**, director, Washington Bureau, Fraternal Council of Negro Churches in America.

Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary, New York Urban League, **Dr. Rayford W. Logan**, president, Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity; **Rev. H. P. Medford**, secretary-treasurer, A. M. E. Zion Church; **Mrs. Estelle Massey Riddle**, consultant, National Nursing Council for War Service; **Mabel K. Staupers**, executive secretary, National Association of Colored Gratuate Nurses; **Julian D. Steele**, Boston; **Dr. Channing H. Tobias**, New York YMCA; **Ludlow W. Warner**, editor, New York Age; **Mrs. Beulah T. Whitby**, national president, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority; **Dr. Max Yergan**, president, National Negro Congress, and **Assemblyman Hulan E. Jack**, New York State legislator.

Union Wants 'Mixed-Crew' Order Probed

Post- Washington, D.C.
1-28-44

By the Associated Press

A sailors' union yesterday appealed to a House committee to investigate what it termed efforts of Government agencies to require the union to put mixed crews of white and Negro seamen aboard ships.

Harry Lundberg, secretary-treasurer of the Sailors' Union of the Pacific, informed the committee that the union's New York office had been notified by Craig Vincent, regional representative of the recruitment and Manning Organization, War Shipping Administration, that from January 15, 1944, on, the union must 'checker board' its crews.

Union Sees No Violation

Lundberg, declaring the union did not believe it was violating the President's order banning job discrimination because of race, color, creed, or national origin, said:

"This executive order does not deal with the social and living conditions of any American citizen, and we do not feel that the Recruitment and Manning Organization of the War Shipping Administration should attempt, under guise of enforcing this order, to force Negroes and white to sleep together when the American Merchant Marine has been sailing for years without such conditions."

Daniel S. Ring, director of the Maritime Commission's Division of Shipyard Labor Relations, said the commission felt that the place for correcting any discrimination against Negro workers in West Coast shipyards was in labor organizations. 1-28-44

Gives Commission's Stand

Ring testified that the commission "believes, in line with national policy, when men are needed for war work, so long as they are American citizens, their colors doesn't matter."

The committee questioned Ring about a controversy on the West Coast, where an order of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee requiring unions to admit Negro shipyard workers to full membership is now before California State courts. 1-28-44

Ring explained that all commission contracts required the contractor to adopt a policy of nondiscrimination, but that the commission recognizes that it has no direct contractual relation with any labor organization or employment agency.

Wage Rates Based On Race Must Not Stand, War Labor Board Says

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga
2-16-44

Part All Races Playing In War Merits Equality, Avers Graham

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Wage rates based on racial discrimination must not be allowed to stand, the nonferrous metals commission of the National War Labor board announced last Tuesday in a directive order in a dispute between three Arizona mining and smelting companies and the International Union of Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO.

The issue was raised by the union through its insistence that all rates below $6.36 per shift for common labor in nonferrous metal mining in the area should be eliminated, and because they are unsound and are based upon racial discrimination, ever, only upon determination by The adjustment was sought in the behalf of Negro, Spanish-Americans and Indians in the southwest.

BAN LOWER RATES

The Miami Copper Co., Miami, Ariz., Interrational Smelting and Refining company and Inspiration Consolidated Copper company, both of Inspiration, Ariz., were directed by the WLB to discontinue all wage rates below $5.88 per shift "in order to eliminate rates found to be unsound and to establish a sound and uniform minimum wage differential, the minimum rates to be established by the union and the boards grant was left the union and plain in part on the basis of the respective companies' ..."

These wage adjustments are retroactive to April 1, 1943 through wage discrimination effective, however, only upon an-expect that the question of discrimination will be solvin adopted machinery to prevent racial discrimination in industrial employ-

Charles A. Graham of the Non-ferrous metals commission indicated that the commission was praise is won by our Negro fighting following President Roosevelt's men on the battlefronts. More slowly Executive Order No. 8802 re-comes recognition of the value of the garding its statement of policy Negro worker here at home, where he discrimination. and his fellows make up one-tenth of our total manpower. Yet the outlook is called, "on the whole, encouraging."

GLARINGLY APPARENT

Anson Phelps Stokes, chairman, in an interim report to the Committee on the Negro well known to ne-American Negro in Defense Industries coverage in this opin- cites some gains. The number of qualiate Chairman Graham fied Negroes is growing in almost all participators of both race representative industries, and Negroes effort as fighters at are working in most of the skilled or lines and as workers semi-skilled trades, the advances in war industries has accentuated a growing this field reflecting those in Government employment and in the military part the difficulty ex services, notably the Army. Today by subject companies there are about 1,500,000 Negroes in ing the Indian from his war industries, and nearly 2,500,000 in to the mine where war work, if the armed forces are inwage differential, the cluded. Though the period is one of tion against him was serious interracial strife, Dr. Stokes ly apparent. 2-16-44 feels heartened that so much has been

"The historical backgrounds of the American Indian and the Negro fighting this field reflecting those in Government employment and in the military Army. Today there are about 1,500,000 Negroes in industries, and nearly 2,500,000 in the armed forces are increasingly differential, though the period is one of serious interracial strife, Dr. Stokes feels heartened that so much has been accomplished. 2-16-44 Promising trends are noted. The Federal Government and several of the States, New York among them, have machinery to prevent racial discrimination in industrial employment, Chairman Graham pointed out. The Spanish-speaking people, he said, will remain in the United States. Many, in fact, possess superior moral rights to remain based upon first occupancy—other hove obtained citizenship through birth and naturalization, he added.

THE NEGRO WORKER
New York, N.Y.
General Arnold commends Negro

ment. The legend that the productive performance of the Negro cannot compare favorably with that of other workers of equal training has been discredited by actual experience. Again, management tends to consider all workers as workers, regardless of color. And the feeling spreads that when we are fighting to destroy the racial-superiority complex of our enemies we should discourage notions of racial superiority in our own land.

Obstacles still remain, The Negro worker's chance for technical training is limited. Often, too, he is reluctant to take full advantage of up-grading opportunities. And some divisions of organized labor still bar the way to him. Nevertheless, Dr. Stokes agrees with Lester B. Granger of the National Urban League that a bridgehead in the struggle for economic equality for the Negro has been won, and that it is up to the United States to hold the gains and eventually to win the century-old war for true democracy within our borders. 2-14-44

This week will be widely observed as Negro History Week. It comes at a time when the American Negro in the foxholes, in the skies and in the workshops is valiantly helping his fellow-Americans to write a history chapter of which we all can be proud.

10 RAILROADS BALK AT HIRING NEGROES

Times-Newyork, N.Y.

Counsel for Them and Unions Warn House Group of Violence if Contracts Are Broken

3-3-44

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, March 2 — Ten of fourteen railroads, cited by the Fair Employment Practices Committee for racial discrimination, have no intention of complying with mandatory orders to hire Negroes as firemen, train conductors and yard foreman, according to Sidney Alderman, their attorney.

To comply, he told the House committee investigating acts of executive agencies today, would abrogate contracts between the railroads and unions under the Railway Labor Act. He warned that violence might result if present totals of Negroes employed on any except maintenance jobs were increased.

Contesting any authority of the FEPC to issue or enforce directives, Mr. Alderman asserted that the committee and its chairman, Malcolm Ross, had exceeded powers vested in it by the executive order creating it. He argued that it had no Congressional sanction to regulate employment or punish infractions of its mandates.

To enforce the directives of the FEPC against the railroads, he contended, would mean virtual paralysis of war transportation because white employes would revolt and rioting and deaths would follow.

Concurring in these views Frank Mulholland, counsel for several organizations of railroad employes, advocated a process of education and gradual improvement as a solution for the problem.

He declared that the FEPC directives had engendered prejudice which negated gains in the economic status of Negro workers.

Charles Houston, a Negro attorney representing the International Association of Railway Employes and the Association of Colored Trainmen and Firemen, argued that the term "directives" was unfortunate in that the FEPC had issued only recommendations with no implization of a penalty.

Asserting that legal devices to protect rights of minority groups of railway workers were lacking, Mr. Houston cited union rules barring Negroes from membership and specific contracts reducing the number employed, except in maintenance jobs, until only a fraction remained employed.

"Here you have such a manpower shortage that even prisoners of war are being employed, and Mexican labor is being imported," he said. 3-3-44

"It all comes down to the treatment of a set of citizens who are bound to defend this country in war, and are doing so, and who are seeking economic justice.

"If you don't decide it now, it means that you will be digging the graves of hundreds of thousands more American boys in the next generation because you will not have solved the situations with which Hitler has confronted mankind in this one."

Mr. Alderman appeared for the Southern Railway Company, the Atlanta Joint Terminal, Atlantic Coast Line, Central of Georgia, Georgia Railroad, Gulf, Mobile & Ohio, Jacksonville Terminal, Louisville & Nashville, Norfolk & Southern and the Seaboard Lines.

The Railroad Challenge

Afro-American Baltimore, Md.

AN EDITORIAL

In taking over the railroads to forestall a general strike which might have crippled the nation's war effort, President Roosevelt took the only possible action open to a chief executive responsible for the victory or defeat of our armies.

By taking this course the President proved himself to be a man of positive action who is determined to carry the war effort for democracy to an ultimate conclusion in spite of obstruction, whether it comes from labor organizers or from Fascist sympathizers. 1-8-44

We are glad the President took this course because he has, unintentionally perhaps, laid the foundation for the next logical step which he must take if he meant anything at all by the doctrine of the Four Freedoms.

"If any man walks out now he is not striking against private industry but against his government," Mr. Roosevelt declared in taking over the railroads.

That's all we wanted to hear. The die has been definitely cast.

When a poor defenseless colored soldier, being trained to die for his country, is forced to ride in jim-crow cars, is denied food and subjected to humiliation and insult, he no longer has to blame it on private business. He knows now that these insults are being handed out by the government he has been asked to preserve.

When colored firemen, brakemen and other skilled workers are denied jobs, they no longer have to blame their plight on labor unions or hostile management. They need now look direct to Washington.

When ordinary citizens like you and me are denied accommodations, are hauled off trains and thrown into jail, we no longer have to listen to apologies about the sovereign rights of Southern States to enforce undemocratic laws.

Now we can look directly to President Roosevelt, the commander in chief of the army and navy, whose army operates the railroads. We can look to the government of the United States which is bigger than the government of any single State.

If the army has power to operate the railroads, it also has the power to see to it that members of that army can ride in comfort without molestation.

If President Roosevelt has the power to take over the railroads for the defense of the nation, he has the power to abolish the indignities heaped upon a portion of the nation's defenders and suspend the undemocratic jim-crow laws for the duration. 1-8-44

We believe that if this is done, by the time the war ends Southerners will have gotten used to being decent and learned that they are none the worse for their experiment in democracy.

When President Roosevelt and Lieut. Gen. Brehon Somervell, Federal operator of the railroads, tell us they are interested only in seeing the railroads run and not in the social ramifications, they tell us that they are interested in winning the war, but not in the purposes for which the war is allegedly being fought—to bring the Four Freedoms to all people.

Wars are not fought for the sheer joy of dying, but for the realization of great ideals.

In the railroad situation, President Roosevelt has the opportunity to translate into tangible form the ideologies he and Mr. Churchill have expressed so eloquently in words. Here is an opportunity for the President, the government, the army, and the nation to prove their sincerity. Will they accept the challenge?

Southern Industrialist Takes High Ground On Treatment Of Colored

Philadelphia Tribune 2-19-44

IT is important for colored Americans to know that all Southern white people are not like Congressman Rankin, of Mississippi and Senator Overton, of Louisiana.

And again: **"When traveling on trains, it is well to remember that most travelers have the urge to eat. Since only one dining car for all, to make a scene or to act in an unseemly manner if a colored person is seated in the car is considered by many not only as evidence of provincialism, but of extreme selfishness as well."**

There are in the South some white men and women who not only believe in equality of opportunity for colored Americans but also have the courage to say so out loud.

Kendall Weisiger, General Information Manager of the Southern Bell Telephone and Telegraph Company, Atlanta, Georgia, writes:

This Southern white business man advocates the abolition of the poll tax and suggests that colored people should be on school boards, city councils, and in state legislatures.

"To speak of extending freedom and brotherhood to all men everywhere becomes but theoretical idealism unless we are willing to begin at home in the application of these freedoms to the people in our midst."

That is a stronger position than many Northern people have the courage to take.

Mr. Weisiger does not deal in generalities. He puts white people's finger on most of the southern taboos. In reference to travel he says: **"Now that so many Negroes are**

white people, even in the South, who are attempting to make America live up to its professions of democracy.

come too bitter, it is well to remember that there are some

USES Is Target Of NAACP Probe

World — Memphis, Tenn.

8-1-44

WASHINGTON,—(ANP) — The NAACP will press the case of a young Howard student who was refused service at the local United States Employment service because in picking the shortest line, he happened to pick the "white line." Leslie Perry, legislative representative for the association, disclosed that Paul V. McNutt has been asked to look into the general situation where Negroes, particularly in the south, are being subjected to discriminatory treatment in their quests for jobs.

The matter of separate lines for Negro job applicants, and the insistence that they use only entrances, plus the unwillingness to accept applications for skilled jobs are among the complaints being presented.

8-1-44

Last week Prentice A. Hillburn, assured of a job at the 2400 hotel was referred to the local USES office for clearance. Observing that a line of Negroes was much longer than a shorter one with whites, he picked the latter. In due course, two guards threatened to eject him bodily. The interviewer, in addition, refused to service him whereupon Hillburn sought to no avail to see a Mr. Morrison, head of the office. Later he brought the attention of the NAACP.

Perry recalled that he had corresponded with Glenn Brockway, then chief of the USES, on similar complaints as much as a year ago in February, and then again in June, 1943. Until now he has been unsuccessful in obtaining a correction of the evils. ANP.

In Columbus, Ga., he pointed out. Negroes are reuired to enter the USES, agency by going around three-quarters of the block and passing through a heavy traffic lane in order to find the "colored" entrance.

8-1-44

In his letter to McNutt, Perry cited the fact that post office's in the south do not require separate lines for Negroes' in order to sell them stamps or money orders.

Seniority Status of Women and Negroes

By ELIZABETH LAWSON

(Instructor in Political Economy, Jefferson School of Social Science)

Some weeks ago there took place in the Jefferson School of Social Science an intensive course on the problems of reconversion and post-war economy. At one of the sessions, students, broached a matter of great theoretical and practical importance to our trade union movement. During the discussion, it became obvious that opinion on this question, even among progressive trade unionists, is sharply divided. It also became clear that no trade union has as yet formulated a clear answer, although an answer is immediately imperative.

The problem which evoked heated discussion and division of opinion among both students and instructors, was as follows:

If, when cutbacks occur, the unions insist upon a program of unconditional and unmodified seniority, women and Negroes will be—with few exceptions—the first to lose their jobs.

The question, then, is: Should the unions make some modification of the seniority principle perhaps putting cutback layoffs on a "percentage" basis or drawing upon a double list of employes?

Some of the teachers and students felt strongly that any modification of seniority would undermine the unions, would act as an entering wedge for anti-union elements among employers. They believe the only safe course for the unions is to adhere to seniority in the most uncompromising manner.

ANOTHER VIEW

Others of the class—among them myself—believe that some modification of seniority is necessary and desirable. We presented the following reasons:

1. Granting that we must strive for full employment during reconversion and after the war, and with full faith that the plan can be achieved; granting that any program for women and Negroes is not worth the paper it is written on unless it is predicated on the assumption that we are going to have full employment—yet it is certain that some dislocation is bound to occur during the period of transition until such a plan for peacetime is actually in operation.

2. First, as to women: We know women's magazines, women's pages of newspapers, the movies and the radio, are already firing a barrage of propaganda whose aim is to drive women out of industry and back to the kitchen. Propaganda of this kind can be expected to increase in volume. Already someone has suggested a federal law to forbid any married woman holding a job.

Now, of course, no one will insist on any woman's remaining in industry if she does not wish to; but she would certainly be to remain if she does wish to, to use her best skills and to receive equal wages. At the same time, I don't think we can take a wholly impartial attitude to the question of women's participation in productive labor. Let's remember that the emancipation of women is chiefly dependent on their introduction into industry.

QUESTION OF NEGROES

3. I think everyone will grant that the question of the Negro in industry is far more explosive a problem than that of women. Some women will leave industry for valid reasons, such as children; others may be wrongly persuaded that it is their patriotic duty to the veterans to stop working. But certainly no one is going to persuade the Negro people to any such course. Having entered industry in larger numbers (and the numbers are still far too small): having been upgraded to higher skills (and the upgrading is still the exception rather than the rule), the Negro people are determined to maintain and to enlarge the place they have won.

4. If, however, strict seniority is observed, the Negroes and the women, who were in most cases the last hired, will be the first fired.

5. The result will be to freeze into postwar industry the discrimination of prewar industrial life—and to do it in the name of trade unionism!

7. The problems of women and of Negroes are **special** problems requiring **special** measures for solution. If we apply seniority rules "impartially," the result **must** be discrimination. Some special measures must therefore be worked out by the unions in regard to the postwar employment of women and Negroes.

This was the sentiment of about half of our students and about half of our instructors. We lay the question before the readers of the trade union and labor press for further discussion.

Plan CIO Man's Defense

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C.—Deep South workers of both colors rallied this week to the defense of William De Berry, international field representative of the CIO United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers, who faces 60 days on the road gang after being framed on a charge of "striking" Mrs. Louise Johnson, white company union stooge, at a War Labor Board panel last June 20.

9-16-44

The newly-formed De Berry Defense committee urged all citizens, churches, lodges, and trade union locals to send immediate letters to Governor J. Melville Broughton, Raleigh, N. C., asking him to use his influence to secure the freedom of the CIO man. De Berry, whose case is now on appeal to the state supreme court, was one of the leaders in the long fight to organize the 12,000 workers of the R. J. Reynolds Tobacco company here.

"Unable to beat UCAPAWA by any honest means, the company has now stooped to frame-ups," Frank Hargrove, chairman of the union's Tobacco Workers Organizing committee declared. Hargrove was one of 18 witnesses who testified to De Berry's whereabouts at the time that he was alleged to have struck the woman. Another defense witness was Dr. Albert S. Keister, chairman of the WLB panel who was standing eight or 10 feet away from where the incident was supposed to have taken place.

9-16-44

Mrs. Johnson became confused under cross-examination when she was on the witness stand, last July 14, and admitted that she did not know whether or not De Berry had struck her.

Ga. Union Ordinance Out

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

MILLEDGEVILLE, Ga.—(ANP)—A city ordinance requiring labor organizers to pay a $5,000 annual license fee has been ruled unconstitutional by Superior Judge George S. Carpenter, who held the law to be an abridgement of the right of free speech.

9-16-44

The ruling was given in the case of R. F. Starnes, field representative and organizer for the CIO United Steel Workers of America, who was arrested and fined twice for attempting to organize Negro and white employes of the Reynolds Naval ordnance plant near here.

Judge Carpenter said he ruled the license fee was excessive on its face, and also held illegal a provision of the ordinance requiring a year's residence before a labor union representative could obtain a license.

More Quit

Journal + Guide

Dewey's Committee

Norfolk, Va. 4-15-44

NEW YORK—(ANP)—On the heels of resignations of six members of Gov. Dewey's State Committee on Discrimination in Employment, two other members turned in their notices of severance last week. The latest two are Lester B. Granger of the National Urban league, and Dr. Sidney E. Goldstein (white), of the Free Sygnagogue.

Still remaining on the 23-man committee are two colored citizens—Dr. C. B. Powell, X-ray physician, business man, editor of the Amsterdam News, member of the state boxing commission; and the Rev. George H. Sims, pastor of Union Baptist Church, West 145th street.

Resignations of these two, plus the remaining white persons on the committee, remain in doubt.

CAUSE OF DISSATISFACTION

The dissatisfaction within the committee was caused when Gov. Dewey repudiated the report of the group on racial employment discriminations, and announced he would set up a new committee. It was Hulan Jack, assemblyman, who refused to permit his name to be used. No further new appointees have been named publicly.

4-16-44

Former Gov. Herbert H. Lehman named the committee to do its investigation, that it presented its report to Dewey, two bills were presented to the state legislature on the strength of it, Dewey refused to support the legislation, decided instead to name another committee which is to report on its findings in February, 1945, after the presidential election.

The affair has resolved itself into political battle royal.

Foresees Job Discrimination For Catholics

PM — New York, N.Y.

Father John A. Ryan Hits Prejudiced Bosses, Labor Unions

9-1-44

By CHARLES A. MICHIE
PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—A Catholic Welfare Conference. The prediction that job discrimination will be practiced against Catholics as well as Negroes and Jews after the war was made yesterday before a Senate Subcommittee by the Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan, of the National

When an employer refuses to hire Negroes because he dislikes them in his presence . . . that is economic. When his reason is clearly racial or, if not racial, psychological," he said, uncharitable and contemptible." Committee is holding hearings on a bill to create a permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee. "When he excludes all Negroes he is found guilty of some unreliable, his

Reprehensible

He added that when Negroes are excluded by "rules and practices" of labor unions it is even more reprehensible than exclusion by employers for the wage earners themselves have been the victims of oppression by stronger economic classes. 9-1-44

Ryan cited the case of 2400 Negro firemen in the South who have been denied promotion to engine drivers through an agreement between railroad management and the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers. The Philadelphia transit strike was a flagrant case of discrimination by workers.

"The Christian precept of brotherly love is not satisfied with mere well-wishing, nor benevolent emotion or sentimental yearning," he said. "It requires action."

Opposition to the bill, he said, derives "not from reason or knowledge but from irritational custom, evil tradition and palpable ignorance."

George Weaver, director of the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, told the Subcommittee that "if America refuses to rid herself completely of the blind prejudices that deny people who are 'different' a fair deal, we undermine the strength of our country and threaten the hard-won gains achieved during the past few years."

Wants It a 'Fact'

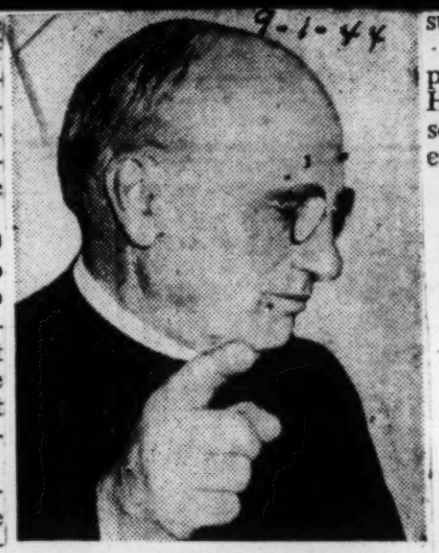
He said he was appearing in support of the belief that the principle of the FEPC should be embodied in U. S. statutes, with enforcement machinery to insure that it will become more than "a pious platitude." 9-1-44

Weaver pointed out that the FEPC closed out 2200 cases during the past year with 879—about 40 per cent—resulting in satisfactory adjustments which eliminated the discrimination involved.

"The Philadelphia transit case (5000 went on strike because nine Negroes were being promoted to motormen) demonstrates to us that with the coming of peace . . . America will be very much in need of a permanent commission . . . to aid in the transition from wartime to peacetime economy," the labor official declared. He called the Philadelphia strike "one of the most disgraceful episodes in American history." 9-1-44

Pray First

"A permanent FEPC cannot stave off a depression but it can insure in the postwar period of job transfers that minority workers will get the same treatment as any other workers," Weaver added. "That a man's seniority and ability are the yardstick whether he holds a job or gets another and not that his skin is dark, his father came from the old country or he worships God in a Catholic church or a Jewish synagogue."



Rt. Rev. John A. Ryan

Before he testified in favor of the FEPC bill, the Rev. William H. Jernagin, Negro pastor of Mt. Carmel Baptist Church, led 25 members of the Negro clergy from various cities in silent prayer for passage of the measure. He told the Committee that jobs must be found for all; that fear and poverty are seeds of fascism and race riots.

Sen. George D. Aiken (R., Vt.), who, with Chairman Sen. Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.) are the only members of the seven-man group hearing the evidence, commented before adjournment that "because about 2,000,000 persons" will be laid off by January this is the time to put into operation acts to alleviate possible distress. Sen. Chavez concurred. 9-1-44

Right Under Their Noses

WASHINGTON, Sept. 1.—Because there was a Negro in their luncheon party, five women attending Senate hearings on a permanent FEPC were denied service in the cafeteria in the Senate Office Building and in the Senate Restaurant.

Miss Milly Brandt, representing Jewish Congress, called the discrimination to the attention of the subcommittee during presentation of her evidence in support of the FEPC bill—expressly designed to outlaw discrimination against minority groups.

"Discrimination in public accommodations is being practiced right under the Capitol dome," she declared. There was no response from Sens. Dennis Chavez or George D. Aiken, the only subcommittee members present.

The Negro woman in the party was Mrs. Anna Arnold Hedgeman, national executive secretary of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC.

UAW Plans Racial Unit

Free Press—Detroit, Mich. 10-5-44

New Group Will Deal with Discriminations

BY DAVID L. WELLS
Free Press Labor Editor

ATLANTIC CITY, N. J. — A unique move in handling racial discrimination was made here Wednesday by the Executive Board of the UAW (CIO).

The board decided to create a permanent Fair Practices Committee to deal with cases involving minority discrimination either by employers or within the union.

The step was recommended by George W. Crockett, Jr., employed by the union months ago to work on minority and racial problems. Formerly he was connected with the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee.

* * *

"THROUGH THIS SETUP it is planned to bring maximum influence to bear on employers or government or both in cases of racial discrimination," said R. J. Thomas, president.

"W ewill not avoid dealing with discrimination cases within the union, either."

One of the union's basic principles is that there must be no discrimination because of race.

10-5-44

RICHARD T. LEONARD, national Ford director of the union, announced that he plans to ask the Ford Motor Co. to join with the union in requesting a wage increase for all Ford workers.

The plan is a direct outgrowth of Henry Ford's recent announcement that he would raise pay if the Government would let him. Such a request hinges on discarding of the Little Steel formula.

Vice President Richard T. Frankensteen left for a West Coast speaking tour arranged by the CIO Political Action Committee. He said he had been assured that his staff of organizers in the aircraft division would not re reduced.

Jim Crow Restaurant Wages Cause Labor Shortage In D.C.

Amsterdam News—New York

Big Hotel Reports Having Hired 4,000 Workers In 500 Jobs During Past Year

WASHINGTON, (ANP)—Because they feel that Negro workers should not be paid the same wages as white workers, owners are faced with worst labor situations in the history of the city. Unable to keep their workers because of the low salaries and the hard work involved, restaurant owners are perplexed and at their wits' ends to get help. They get help, of course, but it is not the kind that is calculated to be of any help to their business.

Claim Illiteracy the Cause

Several proprietors, answering questions on the matter, said they had cooks and workers in their kitchens who were unable to read and write. To offset the poorly paid inefficient help, proprietors are accustomed to hiring white supervisors in the kitchen, paying them top salaries, endeavoring to offset the waste and inefficiency of the cheap Negro help they insist on utilizing.

One big hotel said they have about 500 persons in the kitchen and dining rooms alone. This includes pantry workers and storeroom workers as well. Within the year 4,000 different persons have filled those jobs—that is the turn over in employment has been so great, during 12 months

market," he declared. "These men will be less disposed than the Negro in the past to remain unemployed because of race, nor will they be satisfied to be shunted into the precarious employment afforded by unskilled labor.

"Perhaps many will be drawn into the radical wing of the labor movement and seek a revolutionary solution of their problem. At one time such movements on the part of the Negro could be ignored, but in our urban civilization, they offer a serious threat to internal peace."

The integration of the Negro, he said, would depend largely on whether the nation's productive machinery after the war was run at full capacity. He also emphasized that "something must be done to remove or modify the caste practices in our economic system."

ECONOMIC AID URGED FOR NEGRO AFTER WAR

If Negroes suffer economic hardship after the war and are not integrated into the community they may join radical and dissident forces in an effort to improve their lot, Professor E. Franklin Frazier, head of the sociology department at Howard University, warned yesterday.

This applies particularly to demobilized Negro service men, Professor Frazier said in a paper read before the Institute for Religious Studies at the Jewish Theological Seminary, Broadway and 122d Street.

"The demobilization of the Negroes in the armed forces will throw a large number on the labor

Job Discrimination Termed National Problem By Ross

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
10-13-44

Predicts Minorities Will Have Harder Time In Postwar Period

DETROIT — (SNS) — Employment discrimination against minority group workers is a national and not a minority group problem, Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, told the Metropolitan Detroit Council on Fair Employment Practice here Sunday, October 8.

In facing this problem, Mr. Ross said, a common ground must be found within industry itself on which the workers of many races and origins must take their stand. Otherwise, he stated, racism may disrupt the collective bargaining machinery of which both employers and workers must depend for the peaceful solution of their problems.

10-13-44

SHIFTS INEVITABLE

Discussing the problem of discrimination in terms of the Negro phase "because Negroes are easily identified and so are both actually and symbolically typical of this minority problem which all racial and religious grous encounter in this or any other country," the FEPC Chairman declared:

"We know that great shifts in war employment are inevitable as soon as Germany is conquered. . . A concern on the part of war workers, white and Negro, for their personal futures during these necessary shifts is perfectly natural. But it is one thing to hug shadowy fears and quite another to take steps to remedy a known dilemna. We ought to know the best probabilities of what lies ahead for Negro workers.

10-13-44

"It is not enough to state that Negroes have made great gains in war employment during the past two years and, on that basis, to suppose that their reemployment will follow the same patterns as their fellow white war workers. There are very special considerations affecting Negro workers during the readjustment period."

UNIONS VITAL FACTOR

10-13-44

Offering figures to illustrate the probability that Negroes will bear a heavy part of the layoff and unemployment burden as reconversion proceeds, mainly through situations involving on-the-job seniority and continued discriminatory practices, Mr. Ross said:

"I think it sums up to the fact that minority group workers, and especially the easily identified Negro and Mexican-American, are going to have a harder time finding jobs during reconversion than are white workers."

In coping with the problem, the structure of American industry and the Negro's place in the trade union movement must be considered he said. The place of Negro workers in trade unionism is a vital factor in the creation or release of racial tensions.

Negro Asks Supreme Court To Save His Job On L. & N.

11-15-44

Washington, Nov. 14 (AP)—An attorney for two Negro locomotive firemen told the Supreme Court today that a labor union was making a "blanket attempt" to sweep all Negro firemen from their jobs on Southeastern railroads.

Counsel for the union contended, however, that agreements with the railroads—the basis of the Negroes' complaints—were made in the interest of efficient railroad operation and to provide competent railroad men.

Aid of the Supreme Court was asked by Bester William Steele, Negro fireman on the Louisville & Nashville railroad, and Tom Tunstall, Negro fireman on the Norfolk Southern Railway. Each brought suit against the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen and their railroad employers.

Tells of Agreements.

Their attorney, Charles H. Houston, said the Brotherhood excluded Negro firemen from membership and made agreements with twenty-one Southeastern railroads restricting employment of "nonpromotable" firemen. Under present rules, the court was told, Negro firemen are "nonpromotables."

Tunstall said he was forced out of his job and replaced by a white man. Lower Federal Courts dismissed his complaint. He asked the high tribunal to determine whether he was entitled to assistance under the Railway Labor Act. Steele contended the railroad and brotherhood had discriminated against him and adversely affected his seniority rights. The Alabama State Courts dismissed his suit.

Counsel for the firemen contended that the brotherhood, by accepting the designation as representative of the entire craft or class of firemen under the Railway Labor Act, was obliged to represent them fairly, impartially and in good faith.

Justice Department Intervenes.

The Justice Department, presenting its views as a friend of the court, said that Congress incorporated the principle of majority rule in the Railway Labor Act in the belief that although the minority was deprived of separate representation, it was not harmed since it was to receive all the advantages which the majority obtained for itself. The department contended, therefore, that the Federal Courts have the jurisdiction to prevent discrimination against a minority. The question of the Supreme Court's jurisdiction was raised frequently during argument, however.

James A. Simpson, counsel for the brotherhood, said that the arguments advanced by the Negro firemen should have been addressed to a committee of Congress.

"This court construes the act—it does not write it," he asserted.

UAW Names Committee To Fight Discrimination

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.
10-17-44

DETROIT, Oct. 16.—The CIO United Auto Workers, biggest union in America, has named George F. Addes chairman of a committee charged with fighting discrimination.

Addes, UAW secretary-treasurer, heads a Fair Practices Committee within the union. Serving with him are George W. Crockett, Jr., formerly UAW consultant on minorities, who will be executive director, and four members of the international's executive board: Richard T. Leonard of Detroit, Carl Swanson of Flint, Arnold Atwood of Indianapolis and Joseph Mattson of Chicago. All were named by R. J. Thomas, UAW president.

George F. Addes

Duties of the committee include hearing cases of alleged racial, religious or nationality discrimination. The executive board also authorized an active educational campaign.

Addes said the committee would serve in an advisory capacity to all departments of the international and locals on matters affecting minority groups and will recommend policies.

10-17-44

Crockett pointed out that this "program of positive action" is adopted because of our **"full consciousness of the serious questions of seniority, wage and work differentials and the other attributes of unfair treatment which are bound to pose pressing organizational problems for our union in the reconversion and postwar period."**

SAYS LABOR BLOCKS EQUALITY TO NEGRO

Times — New York, N.Y.
10-21-44

Dean Howard at Washington Conference Asserts Unions Fear 'Regulation'

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 20—Organized labor, by discriminating against Negro membership and then arguing against Government regulation through the medium of anti-discrimination laws, "cannot have its cake and eat it," William H. Hastie, dean of the Howard University Law School, said today in a symposium arranged by the university's division of social sciences.

Mr. Hastie said that for many years organized labor had urged passage of protective legislation 'and got it" so that at present its fears of "regulation" so far as compelling it to drop its anti-Negro membership provisions are concerned cannot be maintained.

Walter Frank of the American Civil Liberties Union said that anti-discrimination laws had been in effect in New York State for several years and that Negro organizations had not yet brought any test cases.

Boris Shishkin, American Federation of Labor economist and a member of the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee, speaking unofficially, explained that the dire predictions of "riots" had not been borne out when the FEPC held hearings in Los Angeles on discrimination against Negroes' employment on the city traction system. Instead, he said, the dispute was adjusted in a few days.

10-21-44

In reply to Mr. Shishkin's assertion that unions feared a large measure of Government regulation if they favored a bill for a permanent FEPC, Mr. Hastie made comment about the trade union's "cake."

George L. P. Weaver, director of the National CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination, said that the need of legislation to prevent discrimination against minorities was so important that the CIO supported such proposals.

If the bill for a permanent FEPC is adopted by Congress he urged to the appeals of those who had given to the urged them to end discrimination enforcement powers b ber of employment. The new organization similar to those States, asserted of the National Labor Relations railway unions also, he said, had Board. not abandoned their reluctance to tive enterprise

Elmer A. Carter of the New admit Negro members, therefore tem York Unemployment Insurance was based Appeal Board, asserted that even he felt that passage of a perma- of voluntarism though the nation's railroads had FEPC bill may be quite difficult. been faced by a manpower crisis At the evening session Emerson during the war, they had not yield- P. Schmidt, head of the Economic

10-21-44

less force, coe than under an system yet devised.

Two Negroes Heard in High Court On 'Job Bias' in Rail Union Pact

By LOUIS STARK

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 14—Tom Tunstall and Bester William Steele, Negro locomotive firemen on two southern railroads, appeared through counsel before the Supreme Court today and argued that, while the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen represented all the firemen on the two systems as exclusive bargaining agents, it barred Negroes and even made agreements with the carriers that resulted in demotion and unemployment for Negro firemen.

Supporting this plea, the Federal Government, through Charles Fahy, Solicitor General, and Robert L. Stern, special assistant to the Attorney General and the National Labor Relations Board, intervened as "friends of the court." In a joint brief, Mr. Fahy and Mr. Stern argued that, since the union excluded Negroes from membership, it was "obviously not acting in good faith as the representative of the entire craft."

The two firemen requested a declaratory judgment that the union represent all employes fairly, that an injunction be issued against enforcement of the union agreement with the carriers and that petitioners be restored to their positions.

Attorneys for the brotherhood and for the two roads, the Louisville & Nashville and the Norfolk Southern, asserted that the Federal Court had no jurisdiction in the case, that the proper remedy was before the National Mediation Board or the adjustment board created under the Railway Labor Act and that, in the Tunstall action, the union had not been properly served.

Charles H. Houston, attorney for the two firemen, maintained that under the principle of majority rule the majority could not use the Government to exploit the minority.

However, he said, the union, acting for the entire class or craft of firemen under the provisions of the Railway Labor Act, had, on Feb. 28, 1941, made an agreement with a group of Southern roads that not more than 50 per cent of the firemen in any seniority district should be "non-promotable."

Negroes, he added, were designated as "non-promotable" and this meant that the places of the Negro firemen, despite long seniority, would be taken by white firemen of lesser seniority.

According to Mr. Houston, if a Negro fireman tried to bring a case of discrimination before the adjustment board he would have to appear before a body composed partly of employers and partly of unions which bar Negroes.

Therefore, he told the court, unless the firemen could go to the courts for relief they had been placed in "economic servitude" by Congress, which passed the Railway Labor Act.

The justices expressed a lively interest in the case and asked the attorneys many questions.

In reply to one question, Mr. Houston said that the issue was broader than race and that if the union could bar Negroes today it could "bar Catholics, Jews and six feet men tomorrow."

Harold O. Heiss, counsel for the brotherhood, asserted that Congress did not legislate on the relation of employes and their representatives under the Railway Labor Act and, therefore, the courts could not so legislate.

He declared that employes adversely affected had recourse to the National Mediation Board and the adjustment board as well as the courts.

"Can promotable men be black?" asked Justice Frankfurter.

"Not on the railroads of the United States," replied Mr. Heiss. "That is the policy of the roads. We have nothing to do with it."

"Then the idea of the non-promotable men is based on races?" asked Justice Murphy.

"That's railroad policy," the brotherhood attorney answered.

He said that hundreds of "seniority" suits are being adjudicated in the State courts and that the only difference between these and the Tunstall case was that "the petitioner comes here and says he's black."

James G. Martin, counsel for the Norfolk & Southern, disagreeing with Mr. Heiss, expressing "serious doubts" about State jurisdiction in the Tunstall case, but argued also that neither was there any Federal issue involved.

Color Bans Job at Bethlehem Steel

Afro American
Baltimore, Md. 9-2-44

BALTIMORE

Before they could say what position they were applying for, two young women were told by the white clerk at the Bethlehem Steel Company Empoyment Agency on Key Highway Tuesday that "there aren't any openings." 9-2-44

At the request of the Committee on Racial Discrimination at Key Highway, a division of the I.U.M.S.W.A., Local 24, CIO, the FEPC has initiated an investigation into what the committee terms an outright case of discrimination.

Acting on the committee's suggestion, the young women, Mrs. Ruth Luttrelle of 1323 N. Carey Street, and Mrs. Flora Spencer of 1721 W. Lanvale Street, informed the clerk that they wished to enter the C.A. (learners') school of welding and were told "it is filled up," and that he "don't know when there'll be vacancies."

According to the three committeemen, two white women had recently completed the C.A. welding course which meant, they pointed out, that there were available vacancies in the school.

These men, James Thompson, Reginald Gale and Walton Blake, all welders at the Bethlehem Shipyard, declare that the refusal to admit colored women to the welding school was a specific case of discrimination in local war industry.

9-2-44

They have referred the case to the FEPC in the hope that this discriminatory policy may be abolished.

AFL Resolution Asks Prison Terms for Race Discrimination

By WILLIAM T. FLANAGAN

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NEW ORLEANS, La., Nov. 24.—A resolution asking Federal legislation to make anti-Semitism and other organized racial discriminations a Federal offense punishable by imprisonment has been placed before the 64th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor here.

The resolution, by far the strongest of its type ever presented to the AFL, was introduced by Louis P. Marciente, president of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor.

If reported out favorably, the proposal will be considered by the convention delegates when business sessions are held next week. The convention is in Thanksgiving Day recess today.

Charge Bias Growing

Marciente's resolution is one of more than a dozen before the convention designed to reduce or abolish racial discrimination. Marciente and A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, also have resolutions before the convention supporting legislation to make the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee permanent.

Taking cognizance of growing tendencies that "organized activities toward discrimination against peoples because of race, color, religion, or national origin, and particularly toward anti-Semitism," are gaining a headway," the proposal states:

"Such tendencies are definitely of Nazi technique and if permitted to go unchecked, will endanger the internal security of our nation, for the world has learned at heavy cost that organized anti-Semitism is, in reality fascism's secret weapon and the beginning of the establishment of dictatorial control.

See Anti-Labor Wedge

"We also know from the sorry experiences of our fellow trade Unionists overseas that if the poison of race hatred and discrimination continues, it ultimately becomes an opening wedge toward the destruction of the ranks of organized labor itself.

"Resolved that we call for the enactment of Federal legislation as a wartime measure and as a postwar measure, which will make organized discrimination, such as anti-Semitism, a criminal offense, punishable by imprisonment. We believe that such a law is essential for the preservation of our great democratic principles and for the protection of our Americans, regardless of race, color, religion, or national origin, and for the ultimate protection of the trades union movement itself."

Marciente said that as far as he knew, Russia is the only other nation in the world with such legislation. Proposals which would make it a Federal offense to send anti-Semitic literature through the mails are pending in Congress, he added, and have been supported by the AFL.

Colored Labor, Foot in Door of Industry, Must Still Make Sale

Afro-American — Baltimore Md.
1-1-44

Urban League Head Cites Employment Gains, Says Post-War Jobs Will Depend on Interracial Peace

By LESTER B. GRANGER
Executive Secretary, National Urban League

Colored labor has a size eleven foot in the door of American industry, in the shape of more than 1,500,000 workers who are joining in war production.

This figure alone emphasizes the sudden transformation that has taken place in the employment status of the colored population since 1938.

In 1940 there were estimated to be approximately 5,500,000 colored workers in this country. Today, nearly 2,500,000 of these are either employed in war industry, or serving in the armed forces.

The transformation has not been easy or sudden. It has been the result of almost heartbreaking effort by colored and white leadership; by progressively developing labor shortages.

The present national picture is far from one of uninterrupted unity and inspired determination; but from the standpoint of using all available labor resources America can be said to have turned her face toward victory in a sense that was definitely untrue on December 7, 1941.

Cites Pre-Pearl Harbor Status

At that time there had been little use made of colored labor resources, except in unskilled jobs and in plants where they had already been employed in large numbers. The field of aircraft manufacturing typified employer attitudes in the newer industries. Then the Wright Aeronautical Corporation made the first large-scale departure from established discriminatory policies, with Bell Aircraft following closely behind.

In the spring of 1941, representatives of the National and local Urban Leagues visited the Bell Aircraft plant in Buffalo to urge the use of colored workers as departure from the management's previous "lily-white" employment policy.

The league's representatives made little headway against the Bell management's insistence that the use of colored workers would involve labor trouble. Finally, the Bell official declared, "But maybe we could use some colored laborers — big, husky men, you know."

"Sold," replied the league's spokesman, "we'll get them for you — and then we'll talk about skilled workers."

Not So Easy as All That

But it was not so easy as all that. Ninety cents an hour at the Bell plant was no particular bargain to colored unskilled labor which could get that and more at local plants already faced with unskilled labor shortages.

But Buffalo Urban League officials managed to round up thirty unemployed colored men and sent them to the Bell plant to crash the color line and establish a bridgehead for further placements. 1-1-44

Three weeks later five were accepted as trainees for semi-skilled production jobs, and the Bell plant had entered upon a new phase of labor relations.

Glenn L. Martin of Baltimore, North American Aviation of Kansas City, Consolidated and Brewster Aircraft — all began to use colored workers at production jobs. Lockheed-Vega of California jumped the gun on the West Coast with more than 350 skilled and semi-skilled colored production workers.

The aircraft industry had decided to go all out for victory.

Similar changes in the shipbuilding and ordnance industries, building construction, and production of electrical appliances and other small parts took place at a notable pace.

Mass unemployment among colored workers rapidly became a thing of the past during 1941-42. An actual scarcity of colored labor became apparent in many industrial centers and employment offices were hard-pressed to fill employers' orders, especially for trained colored labor.

Downtown offices of big cities began to call for colored stenographers. Dark-skinned bus and trolley operators made their debut in New York, Detroit, and elsewhere. Small brown girls and midde-aged women hurried Western Union and Postal Telegraph messages through busy streets.

At the annual conference of the National Urban League in 1943 nearly 300 personnel directors and labor leaders in war plants met with league staff members at a labor-management luncheon to discuss further integration of colored workers into war industry.

In a Mississippi city, sixty-six personnel directors of Southern industry met with a colored economist who discussed with them methods of improving production records of their colored employees. War plants had moved from the "why" to the "how" of colored employment. 1-1-44

Picture Still Dark

There is still a dark side to the whole picture, of course. The Southwestern Telephone Company of Kansas City, Mo., recently received a headline newspaper notice when it refused to accept a war contract containing a stipulation against racial discrimination in employment.

Thus far the War Manpower Commission and the Fair Employment Practice Committee have been successful only in securing "auxiliary local membership" for colored workers in some locals of the Boilermakers' Union and the admission of some individual colored workers to the Machinists' Union in several cities.

The perennial resolution offered by A. Philip Randolph on the floor of the American Federation of Labor Convention, calling for abolition of racial discrimination in AFL unions, received a short shrift on the convention floor.

All of this has seriously affected the psychology of colored labor, even where that labor is presently employed in war industry. Here is a problem of worker morale that holds the attention of thoughtful colored leadership today.

Labor leaders deplore the failure of new colored workers to take full advantage of their chances for equal union membership. Colored observers are concerned about the spending and saving habits of a working population that has been on the starvation list for ten years and is now celebrating its escape.

Clucking Hen Missionary

A clucking hen type of colored spokesman flutters worriedly about the community exhorting workers to "make good for the honor of the race," and the workers go right along at the same pace, doing not much better and not much worse than the white workers — in short, being typical Americans in a war industry boom.

But the trouble is that being typical Americans is not enough for colored workers during this period. Rightfully or wrongfully, they are on public trial so far as postwar employment policies are concerned. 1-1-44

Just as a colored candidate for a football or basketball team must usually be better than his white rivals to clinch a place on his high school or college team, so must the colored worker be definitely better than his white fellows to receive even an equal evaluation.

Unless there is standing proof of a praiseworthy record, there is danger that an end of the war emergency can mean an end of extensive industrial employment for colored workers of semi-skilled and skilled production jobs.

The problem itself suggests the techniques that must be used. Wartime gains for colored workers have thus far been made through the use of comparatively simple procedures, but holding these gains will demand a much more complicated and skilful approach.

Past results are the outgrowth of a combination of mass protest by colored people themselves, public support of liberal whites, and use of government authority. Implementing these basic processes were the undramatic but equally important efforts of certain voluntary and Federal agencies.

Outstanding among these agencies were the Negro Manpower Service of the War Manpower Commission and the industrial relations department of the National Urban League.

Colored workers have generally arrived only recently from non-industrial and rural Southern backgrounds, or have transferred from domestic service, maintenance, and casual laboring jobs.

Such a group must be educated not only in manual skills of industrial production, but also in the discipline and work habits of their new occupations.

The day's worker who has formerly arrived on the job at "about 8" and left at "about 7" will find it hard to punch a time clock "at" or "before" 8, have exactly one hour or a half-hour for lunch, and leave promptly at 5 to make way for the incoming shift.

Among white and colored workers alike, the fundamentals of a wartime industrial morale must be hammered home.

White workers must be taught a spirit of tolerance and adaptation that makes a place for the unfamiliar worker simply because he is desperately needed in war production.

Must Make Peace Now

The postwar place of colored labor will depend partly upon the labor requirements of industry; to be sure; but it will also depend upon the measure of adaptation that has been accomplished by colored and white workers in their relationships with each other on war jobs.

The prospects for this double morale-building job are far better at the moment than Detroit and Mobile would seem to indicate.

We see a lessening of the chip-on-the-shoulder, cynical attitude; we seldom hear the once frequent reference to "the white man's war." Colored families with men on the firing line realize that this is their war no matter how they would have it. 1-1-44

And against the previous stubborn attitude of majority white opinion, the thrust of liberal leadership has begun to show results.

There is a gradual, if grudging, realization that one-tenth of our manpower is too important to be ignored and that our international relations are being affected by our present state of race relations.

That present state in this country is bad, as only the blindest optimist would deny. Yet it would be rank pessimism to deny that, in spite of the disgraceful outbreaks of recent months, the past two war years have produced heartening signs of new interracial leadership and vision.

If we can hold these gains and keep from suffering new losses, we can be sure not only of winning our war abroad but also of beginning to win our fight for true democracy at home.

RAILROAD JIM CROW

Age-New York, N.Y.

LAST WEEK, in an editorial of the same caption as this, The New York Age made the observation that: "If the President appoints a committee, he will be merely postponing the day of final reckoning because we can see no reason for any other committee being set up except for the purpose of ignoring the findings of the FEPC". 1-15-44

The week was hardly out when announcement came from the White House that President Roosevelt had "appointed Judge Walter P. Stacy, of Raleigh, N. C., Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of North Carolina, as chairman; and Judge William H. Holly, of the U. S. District Court, Chicago, Ill., and Mayor Frank J. Lausche, of Cleveland, as members of a committee to investigate the impasse between certain railroads and railroad labor organizations on the question of discriminations in certain fields of railroad employment."

In sending the announcement, the OWI also included the text of the President's letter to the 3 above-named officials.

"I have received," wrote the President, "from the Fair Employment Practice Committee certification that the Committee has reached an impasse with a number of railroads and railroad labor organizations in its efforts to secure the removal of discriminations in certain fields of railroad employment. I am enclosing a copy of the letter to me from Chairman Malcolm Ross of the Fair Employment Practice Committee and also copies of pertinent documents in this case."

"Obviously," the President continued, "in such a complicated structure as the transportation industry, we cannot immediately attain perfect justice in terms of equal employment opportunities for all people. I am sure, however, that you agree with me that all strength essential to the major military offensible the best use of all our human resources Americans at this time should be anxious to sives now planned. Indeed, hardly anything in this year of supreme national effort. see to it that no discriminations prevent the in America now seems so important as such

"Th specific questions involved in the case certified to me by the Fair Employment Prac-

power in providing the a unity based upon justice as will make pos-

Committee relate only to discriminations against certain classes of Negro railroad employees in connection with which complaints were filed with the Committee. These employees are locomotive firemen, trainmen, switchmen, dining car and shop employees.

"I believe," the President continued, "it to be highly important in connection with this situation that a small committee of disinterested and distinguished citizens be appointed to discuss this matter as my representatives with the railroads and labor organizations. I am sure that agreements shaped in good sense and good will can be reached."

There are other parts of the letter, but they are not pertinent to the subject of our discussion. The fact is that all justice-loving people in the United States are most interested in the utter lack of courage that President Roosevelt has exhibited in this matter. "Obviously in such a complicated structure as the transportation industry, we cannot immediately attain perfect justice in terms of equal employment opportunities for all people."

Why cannot perfect justice be attained, Negroes ask? 1-15-44

And the big question, which the President must answer to the Negro electorate is why after the FEPC had certified the case to him did he find it necessary to appoint another committee of "disinterested and distinguished citizens" to further discuss the matter with the railroads and labor organizations?

The FEPC held public hearings in Washington, D. C. The railroads and labor unions were invited to participate; some of them did; most of them didn't.

The FEPC, after the public hearings, summarized the case, issued directives to the railroads and labor unions to cease their discriminatory practices, and was told in effect to mind its own business.

The FEPC, after its authority had been questioned, immediately certified the case to the President for his action.

And the President, with a "hot potato" dumped in his lap, took the easiest way out and has named a committee of three to go all over what his own committee has just done.

But the President in appointing the committee of three, and in expressing the opinion that "we cannot obviously attain perfect justice in terms of equal employment opportunities for all people," has had a surprising reversal of heart for when he first set up the FEPC, Mr. Roosevelt declared:

"Whereas the successful prosecution of the war demands the maximum employment

all available workers regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin; and

"Whereas, it is the policy of the United States to encourage full participation in the war effort by all persons in the United States regardless of race, creed, color, or national origin, in the firm belief that the democratic way of life within the nation can be defended successfully only with the help and support of all groups within its borders. and

"Whereas there is evidence that available and needed workers have been barred from employment in industries engaged in war production solely by reason of their race, creed, color, or national origin, to the detriment of the prosecution of the war, the workers' morale, and national unity: 1-15-44

"Now, therefore, by virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and statutes, and as President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief of the Army and Navy, I do hereby reaffirm the policy of the United States that there shall be no discrimination in the employment of any person in war industries or in Government by reason of race, creed, color, or national origin; and I do hereby declare that it is the duty of all employers, including the several Federal departments and agencies, and all labor organizations, in furtherance of this policy and of this Order, to eliminate discrimination in regard to hire, tenure, terms or conditions of employment, or union membership because of race, creed, color, or national origin."

Those were the President's own words in setting up the FEPC.

Those were the words which Negroes believed would bring about perfect justice in terms of equal employment opportunities.

Those were the words.

Those were just words!

No Upgrading, Firings Facing Labor In South

Defender - Chicago, Ill

1-29-44

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MOBILE, Ala. — The jim-crow plan agreed upon by the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company and the Fair Employment Practices Committee last spring, seemed to be back-firing against the Negro worker here this week.

According to information received by the Defender last Saturday, the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company in a newly-inaugurated policy will confine Negro skilled workers on outer hull construction to only two shipways, instead of four, as originally agreed upon with the FEPC and other federal agencies last May following a three-day race riot at the Pinto yard of the company.

Ships are being built at the Pinto yard for the U. S. Maritime Commission.

While no official of the company could be reached for confirmation of the report, the reliability of the source of information is such that the story is regarded as authentic.

Any retrogressive change in policy affecting Negro workers at the Alabama Dry Dock and Shipbuilding company yards, is expected to have a similar influence in other shipyards in the Gulf and South Atlantic areas.

Cite Low Wages

The adoption of the plan to confine skilled Negro workers to only two ways, will mean that all colored workers must, upon being employed, start in as laborers at 63 cents per hour. A limited number will be permitted to take in-plant training available for the few skills in which Negroes are working on outer hull construction.

The new policy shall very likely spell the doom of skilled employment opportunities for qualified colored workers who may desire to begin work in their chosen fields upon being employed by the company. 1-29-44

It means further that there shall be no increase in Negro employment in skilled capacities unless they are permitted to work in the many trades from which they are now barred at the shipbuilding plant.

The new move is one of the many ominous signs which indicate that no further upgrading of Negroes in war industries in the South is contemplated.

Unskilled Jobs

At the Gulf Shipbuilding company's yards at Chickasaw, the Negro is to rise no higher than a helper, and the same policy is to prevail at the Aluminum Ore company and other plants in the Mobile area holding war contracts.

The Ingalls Shipbuilding company at Pascagoula, Miss., offered skilled jobs to Negroes only in the capacity of painters, and to a very few at that.

These policies of racial proscription continue to hold sway despite directives issued by the Fair Employment Practice Committee more than a year ago, ordering several of these companies to upgrade and employ Negroes in all capacities.

Lay-offs At Airfield

A leading bakery here laid off eight colored women employees last week and replaced them with white women at a higher wage scale. Six more colored women are scheduled to be likewise released from service this week. Whether the remaining 50 or 60 will be gradually eliminated as white women become available will be revealed in the not too distant future.

The vast Brookley Field Army Air Depot here, which employed more than 18,000 civilian workers, about one-third Negro, several months ago, is furnishing another example of apparent subtle dealings toward Negro labor.

From mid-October to December 31, approximately 1,000 civilian workers were laid off at the field.

Fortunately, the U. S. Employment Service has rendered helpful service to aid in the placement of workers who lost their jobs.

A new threat is now being made against Negro labor by Brookley Field officials—a threat to replace a large group of colored workers in the disassembling engineering maintenance department with white workers. 1-29-44

That particular department has been the source of much racial friction.

Negroes employed at Brookley Field are almost entirely confined to the most menial tasks. Any effort to further drastically reduce the number of Negro civilian workers, should weld Negro citizens into a phalanx to vigorously protest the injustice and also send representatives to Washington to place the matter before President Roosevelt and the War Department.

A Negro leader here warned, "We are keenly disappointed that such little progress has been made in the South toward full integration of Negroes in war industries. We are not going to give up the little ground won without a hell of a fight here and in Washington to retain our position to assure some kind of a future for our children."

Wanted: A Fair Employment Practice Law
Courier - Pitts Pa 1-29-44

The Pittsburgh Courier has stated again and again that the Fair Employment Practices Committee will never be able to function effectively unless it is backed up by federal law.

Moral suasion will go just so far and no farther.

That many other Americans have arrived at the same conclusion is indicated by the introduction of just such a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives by Rep. T. E. Scanlon of Pennsylvania and Rep. William A. Dawson of Illinois.

Officials of the CIO and AFL have endorsed the bill.

This bill can be passed in this session of Congress if enough public support can be recruited for it.

Every Negro institution and organization in the country should write to their respective senators and representatives urging support of such legislation.

Unless this law is passed now, it will never be passed.

Labor Forum

By M. Moran Weston

New York, N.Y. Amsterdam News

ECONOMIC DISCRIMINATION—denial of a job, denial of equal pay for equal work, denial of skilled training and work, because of race and color—has been the noose which has choked off the Negroe's progress to full citizenship in America. 2-26-44

During the last eight months, two CIO unions,—the Oil Workers International Union, through a Texas local, and the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers International Union through an Arizona local,—have made a notable contribution to economic equality for all Americans. Both unions appealed to the War Labor Board to abolish the practice in their industries of paying Negroes, Indians and Mexicans lower wages for the same work as white workers. In both cases the War Labor Board issued directive orders to the companies to pay all workers the same wages for the same work.. The oil workers case was decided June 6, 1943. The copper miners case was settled the first week in February, 1944. In this second case, the companies were ordered to make the pay increase retroactive to April 4, 1943.

Mr. Weston

The Men Behind The Orders

By curious coincidence, the men who wrote the decisions for the War Labor Board and served as chairmen of the Commissions handling the cases were named Graham. In the copper miners case, it was Charles A. Graham, chairman of the Nonferrous Metals Commission. In the oil workers case it was Dr. Frank P. Graham, president of the University of North Carolina, the outstanding representative of liberal white southerners.

There is a notable paragraph in the opinion written by Dr. Frank Graham and quoted by Charles Graham in the copper miners case. It reads:

Follows Nazi Pattern

"Economic and political discrimination on account of race is in line with the Nazi program. America, in the days of its infant weakness the haven of heretics and the oppressed of all races, must not in the days of its power become the stronghold of bigots The world has given America the vigor and variety of its differences. America should protect and enrich its difference for the sake of America and the world. Understanding religious and racial differences makes for a better understanding of other differences and for an appreciation of the sacredness of human personality, as a basis to human freedom. The American answer to differences in color and creed is not a concentration camp, but co-operation. The answer to human error is not terror, but light and liberty under moral law. By this light and liberty, the Negro has made a contribution in work and faith, song and story, laughter and struggle, which are an enduring part of the spiritual heritage of America."

Root It Out Now 2-26-44

This war aims to destroy fascism all over the world. Economic and political discrimination against the Negro, the Jew, Mexican or Indian is part of fascism. These two CIO unions and the War Labor Board have shown how we can root out evil of fascism as a vital part of winning the war on the military fronts. Let's go the whole hog. It can and must be done.

JOB DISCRIMINATION

Age-New York, N.Y.

DESPITE the fact that the National Urban League reports employment prospects for Negro workers in post-war industry appear steadily brighter as an increasing number of employers declare themselves satisfied with the production record of their Negro labor, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice reports a progressively mounting number of new cases involving charges of employment discrimination. 2-26-44

The summary report of the Urban League's Department of Industrial Relations analyzes returns from 300 typical war plants, located in 25 states and 120 cities and towns. These plants comprise the League's "Industrial Relations Laboratory" and are selected from approximately 2,000 war plants served by Urban Leagues throughout the country. An estimated total of 150,000 Negro workers are covered in these returns.

The League's report also showed satisfactory work performance by Negroes reported by 215 of the 300 plants. In 9 cases, management declared Negro workers inferior to white, and in 50 plants a report of "fairly satisfactory" was made.

Negroes are employed in skilled operations by 154 of the 300 plants; as semi-skilled workers in 247 plants; and as unskilled workers in all. The majority of the plants employing skilled Negro workers were located in the mid-West and Eastern Seaboard cities. In 253 of the 300 war plants, management declared that on the basis of current experience with Negro workers, jobs would be assured them after the war. Twelve plants have made no decision, and the remaining 35 declined to make a commitment.

Now for the other side of the picture. The FEPC reported that during the last six months of 1943, the agency closed a total of 989 cases involving charges of employment discrimination. During the same period, however, a progressively mounting number of new cases, averaging more than 300 a month, left the committee with 1,957 cases at the beginning of 1944. Of the cases closed, 359 were adjustments in compliance with Executive Order 9346, banning employment discrimination. The remaining cases were dismissed by the committee or withdrawn by the complainants.

The report, submitted to a joint meeting of FEPC members and its nine regional directors, assembled in Washington for the first time to discuss committee problems, said:

"The committee's procedure calls for attempted settlement of complaints through cooperation of War Manpower regional officials and through information negotiations between FEPC field officers and those against whom the complaints were lodged. No one of the 359 satisfactory adjustments during the six-month period became a subject of public controversy. Whenever cases fail to yield to informal negotiation at the regional level, and when the intervention of the WMC, the contracting agency and the committee at the Washington level cannot effect a settlement, it is committee procedure to hold a public hearing. Only five such public hearings were held during a six month period." 2-26-44

The 716 cases involving discrimination because of race formed the largest category among the 989 cases. Among the cases closed, war industries accounted for a total of 692 complaints of discrimination, Government, 288, and trade unions, 9.

The abolition of job discrimination is a long and tedious process. Remarkable strides have been made during this war in the employment picture, but is far from a beautiful picture despite glowing reports of the Urban League. The Negro's chances for upgrading are still limited as are his chances for technical training. There are still barriers raised by labor unions and prejudiced employers.

We do not fell discouraged, however, because a lot of erroneous and pre-conceived notions of the Negro's inferiority are being broken down and Negroes are performing creditably whenever they have the chance. Industry is not short-sighted and with a shortage of labor, the opportunity is here for Negroes to ensure post-war job security by their performances now.

CIO Protests Discrimination In Mine Pay for Mexicans

PM - New York, N.Y.

Union Fights Issue Against 3 Companies Before WLB

7-3-44

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 1.—The CIO's Mine, Mill and Smelter Union has begun a fight before the WLB (War Labor Board) here to remove discriminations against Americans of Mexican ancestry who work in Arizona copper mines, mills and smelters.

The union's efforts have already resulted in findings by the WLB's non - ferrous metals commission against three Arizona copper companies, and proceedings against additional companies have been started.

The commission found the three companies guilty of racial discrimination. The discrimination consists of paying the so-called Latin-American workers a lower wage than the so-called "Anglos" and refusing to upgrade them.

Differential Cut

In order to "partially eliminate" the wage discrimination the commission fixed rates that were higher than the discriminatory rates but lower than the starting rate for "Anglos." 7-3-44

One of the companies accepted the findings. The other two, the Inspiration Consolidated Copper Co. and the International Smelting & Refining Co., appealed to the WLB.

At a hearing before the full Board here yesterday P. D. I. Honeyman, general superintendent of the Inspiration Co. maintained that the company's primary hiring rate is $5.21 a shift for common labor; that the vast majority of the common labor is "Mexican" or Latin-American"; and that the companies' rate structure is set up for racial discrimination. He said that under it, when a person with no experience is hired he is classified as a common laborer if he is a common laborer of Latin extraction, but as a helper if he is of non-Latin extraction. The rate for the common laborer is $5.21 a shift, while that of the helper is $6.36. Robinson said the companies told the Board that the so-called Mexicans have the mechanical aptitude to serve as helpers.

"You don't know; you never give them a chance," replied Robinson.

"You put them in the pool and never promote them, whereas the others start as helpers and are upgraded." 7-3-44

Reference to these workers as "Mexicans" and "Spanish Americans" caused Dr. Frank Graham, member of the WLB, to remark: "A person of Spanish or Mexican ancestry who is born in this country is as much an American as other native Americans."

The two companies involved in the hearing have about 2000 employes. About 40 per cent are of Mexican or Spanish ancestry.

The union has brought a similar case against the Phelps Dodge Corp. before the WLB but it is not as far along.

Given No Chance

Americans Favor Job Equality --Hard

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa
3-4-44

By JAMES EDMUND BOYACK

NEW YORK—After an exhaustive study of the future of the Negro in American industry, William Hard, senior editor of Reader's Digest, in the March issue, came to the conclusion that "the people as a whole, no matter what they think about 'social equality,' are overwhelmingly in favor of economic equality for Negroes.

"I contend that they think: 'Let a man work! Then we will see from there!"

Hard poses three vital questions:
1. "Shall a Negro be allowed to have a job?
2. Shall he be allowed to grow into a better job if he is fitted for it?
3. Shall he get a fair chance to sweat for his bread and butter and to feed his wife and children according to the merit of his brain and brawn? 3-4-44

"I say that the answer in this democracy must be 'yes.' At present, it is too often 'no.' This, in spite of the fact that the soundest cure for race riots is mutual acquaintaceship between the races IN WORK," he declares.

DIVERSE OPINION 3-4-44

The nationally known writer sees no easy road to full economic equality. He points out:

"There are two schools of thought among those who believe Negroes should have full opportunity to earn their living. One school would promote Negro employment only by voluntary experiment. The other would use also, the force of public laws that move toward that end. Often it has been found extremely difficult to enforce them upon hesitant employers and reluctant unions.

"The Fair Employment Practice Committee has been operating less on law than on vague Presidential war powers and on patriotic persuasion. It has had many successes," he admits, and predicts "a big drive to make the committee permanent under a statute outlawing all race discrimination in interstate commerce.

"I think that no such statute can be effectively enforced without two preliminary steps.

ECONOMIC ASSET THAT MUST BE USED

"One is to educate people to know that the theory that whites and blacks cannot work together without turmoil and disaster is flatly contrary to ever-increasing fact. The other is to educate people to know that in the competitive world after this war we are going to need all the working energy, whether white or black, that we can assemble. Every ounce of such energy used is a national gain. Every ounce of it not used is a national loss. 3-4-44

"Our 13,000,000 American Negroes are not today the national economic asset that they could be. To develop them into being that asset, to the utmost of their capacity, is not only an expression of the Americanism that derives from Christianity, but a mater of solid common sense." Hard insists.

WASTED MANPOWER

By ALBERT BLACK

JIM-CROWISM IS THE DOOM OF THE NEGRO WORKER

Philadelphia Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa

THE March issue of the Readers Digest contains a very interesting article entitled "White and Blacks Can Work Together." William Hard, the author of this article asks the question: Shall a black be allowed to grow into a better job if he is fitted for it? Shall he get a fair chance to sweat for his bread and butter and to feed his wife and children according to the merit of his brain and brawn? 3-11-44

BLACK

The answer as we all know must be "Yes." Organized Labor's answer must be yes also if it expects to grow stronger and have its ranks become larger. Unfortunately the A. F. of L.'s answer has generally been no. This representative group of organized labor, as I explained in my column last week has shown what its attitude is in regard to the Negro worker. There are a few unions within the A. F. of L., namely, the Painters, Hodcarriers, Bricklayers and Operative Plasterers that do have protective measures in their constitution regarding discrimination against Negroes; but the policy of the larger A. F. of L. Railway Unions and the A. F. of L. Executive Council overshadows the efforts of the smaller unions to make the A. F. of L. be in truth an American Federation of Labor.

Hard goes on to say that "All C.I.O. Unions are committed to fight to the finish against race discrimination in C. I. O. jobs.

Negroes sit on the C.I.O. Executive Board. Can there be a better example as proof of the C.I.O. policy towards Negroes than the position R. J. Thomas, president of the United Auto Workers, took last spring when there were stoppages at the Packard Plant in Detroit because of some transfers of Negroes to higher positions?

Thomas announced, "Negroes pay a dollar a month dues, the same as other members of this Union.. Negroes have the same right as other members to be upgraded. I have given an ultimatum to the Packard workers that they must go back to work. If it means that some white workers are going to get fired from their jobs, then that's exactly what is going to happen."

The most interesting part of this article was men-

tion of Sun Shipbuilding And Dry Dock Company's No. 4 Yard, I quote: "A striking experiment in Negro employment has been made by the Sun Shipbuiding And Dry Dock Company in Chester, Pa. That has four building and launching yards. In three of them whites and blacks work intermingled. In the fourth the working force is almost wholly black.

"In the absence of white workers they get a complete chance to rise rapidly into skilled posts. Only the very top of the supervisory force is white."

The author has not said if this striking experiment is a success or not. The question arises, which shipyard is the most efficient, a mixed yard or a Jim Crow one? To my way of thinking when anything Jim Crow is ever set up, it is on the assumption that blacks and whites cannot work together harmoniously.

Of course the question may arise that at Sunship Negroes and white work together in harmony in three Yards, why then must there be a Jim Crow Yard? The answer has already been given that in a Jim Crow Yard Negroes will be able to rise rapidly into skilled positions.

That is the John Pews' answer to the Negroes demand for equal opportunity for advancement. Even though he runs Sun Ship, he doesn't see fit that there should be a fair and democratic upgrading system where a man should be upgraded on merit and ability and not on the color of his skin. I cannot forget that prior to Pearl Harbor, Negroes were only hired in the capacity of cleaners and blacksmith's helpers. 3-11-44

I have long promised myself to expose the real truth of what No. 4 Yard means to the Negro worker and how the Negro is being exploited by the 'Great Emancipator' instead of being allowed to work under a fair system of supervision.

In the first place the three Yards where white and black mechanics are working together side by side in harmony, records have been set in building ships. In the South Yard where there are more Negro welders than whites on one particular shift, the record for efficiency is the highest there. The South Yard builds more boats than any other of the Yards at Sun Ship.

Negro workers in the North, Central and South Yards suffer none of the intimidation by the Company that the No. 4 Yard workers suffer. No. 4 Yard employees suffer much more under the tyranny of the pink slip system (Company's yardstick to punish employees) than Negroes in the other Yards.

The pink slip is a problem not of law, but of humanity. The C.I.O. has again and again raised its voice on the behalf of the innocent victims of the pink slip. This same slip of paper traps hundreds of willing, unsuspecting workers who want to do their best for the war effort.

3-11-44

The hiring policy is different in No. 4 Yard than in the other Yards? No. 4 Yard hires only skilled mechanics or laborers, no helpers. Why is this? The Company must have cleaners for the boats and as the cleaning department is a Jim Crow Department through the entire 4 yard, there must be certain number of men kept in this department. If a man has some knowledge of a trade, but not enough to qualify as a mechanic, he must go to the cleaner's department and stay in this form of purgatory for months. When a white worker with no knowledge of a trade applies for work at any of the other yards, he starts out as a helper immediately.

35c-1944

Georgia

Atlanta Civil Service Is Opened To Negroes

Journal-Knoxville, Tenn.
5-3-44

ATLANTA, May 2 (AP) — The clerical roster of the Atlanta Civil Service system will be opened to Negroes for the first time if council approves a measure adopted last week by the personnel board.

The measure would permit selection of Negroes for two positions, stenographer and clerk. Stafford W. Graydon, personnel director, said. He added they would be assigned to the new All-Negro center to be operated by the city, county state and Federal governments in combatting social diseases. 5-3-44

WMC'S PROPOSAL CALLED BLOW TO NEGRO WORKERS

Tribune-Chicago, Ill. 1-24-44

The Chicago citizens committee of 1,000 called upon President Roosevelt yesterday to stop the war man power commission's expected action placing Chicago in the No. 1 critical labor shortage classification and to prohibit discrimination against Negro war workers by federal housing officials. Three special church meetings, attended by 3,500 men and women, were addressed by Edgar G. Brown of Washington, D. C., director of the natoinal Negro council.

Brown asserted that Chicago's war production record does not warrant "the paralyzing hand of burocracy" in the form of a No. 1 classification, which would restrict contract letting and renewals. He predicted that with a cessation of war contracts, Negroes would become unemployed or forced into substandard jobs and "thus be prospective relief clients to be used by the New Deal for political purposes." 1-24-44

The committee's resolution charged the national housing administration with "wholesale bungling and failure" in not providing adequate housing for Negro war workers in Chicago.

Negro Ban Restrained

Tribune-New York, N. Y. 1-25-44

Federal Judge Walter J. Labuy, at Chicago, issued a temporary injunction restraining members of the National Railway Adjustment Board, the Santa Fe Railroad and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen from depriving 40 Negro porter-brakemen of their jobs. The porters, who have been doing extra work braking and switching for trainmen's pay, charged the board's action was discriminatory.

FOUND SHE WAS A NEGRO, YOUNG WOMAN DENIED JOB IN DEPT. OF JUSTICE LIBRARY

Tribune-Savannah, Ga. 2-4-44

New York, N. Y., Jan. 28—The following statement by Miss Ethel Payne of Chicago, a member of the Governor's Race Commission of Illinois, is most revealing and indicates the extent of vicious bottlenecks concerning the employment of Negro technicians and professional workers in government works, states A. Philip Randolph, national director of the March on Washington movement, at the headquarters in the Theresa hotel building in New York:

"I have a Civil Service rating for government librarian, dating from December 11, 1942. The classification for junior assistant is $1620 a year. About two months ago, I received a form letter from the Director of Libraries at the Department of Justice, Mr. M. A McKavitt, asking me if I would be available for appointment when such a vacancy should occur. The salary quoted was $1440 which with overtime pay would bring it up to $1720.

"I answered the letter in the affirmative, pointing out to him that my grading was for a basic $1620, which with overtime pay would bring it up to something over $1800 a year.

While in Washington, to be exact, on Friday, the 21st, I went into the Department of Justice to make inquiry concerning the position. A woman in the personnel, having first talked with Mr. McKavitt on the phone, sent me up to see him on the fifth floor. He greeted me very cordially and began by informing me that he had just sent back a memorandum to the Civil Service Department in which my name had been rejected from a list of five eligibles. Three out of the five had declined the position. One a girl from the South, had been rejected for lack of qualifications. He said that he had pondered a long time over my name and had even discussed it at length with some of the members of his staff. 2-4-44

From some of the statements on my application, it was ascertained that I was colored, and so the conversation revolved around the difficulties which would arise upon having a Negro on the staff.

"There are now Negro girls running the elevator, and the department has five Negro men as messengers and clerks, but he said that it had never been the policy of the department to employ Negroes in the professional capacities.

"Among other things he quoted the women downstairs as having said to him over the phone that he would not be interested in me as I was a Negro. He said that my qualifications were so unusually fine that he personally wanted to take me on. I asked him if he were in complete charge of the hiring, he said that his superior was a man from Georgia who would never stand for the hiring of Negroes in professional capacities.

"Again he suggested to me, which I interpreted as an attempt at a technical excuse, that because of my high qualifications, I would not be interested in a $1440 salary, which was all that they could offer now. I told him that the fact that I had applied to the letter in the affirmative meant that I was willing to accept the position and so that could not be used as an excuse. 2-4-44

"Actually I was being rejected solely on the grounds of color. He apologized and suggested that I try other departments for jobs. In the event that I secured nothing, he said to come back and he would try to push my appointment or else suggest something else.

"The net morning I went to th Civil Service and told my story. They could offer me nothing better than a junior clerk for which I would have to take another examination."

GREEN TO FIGHT RACIAL JOB BANS IN PEACE TIME

Tribune-Chicago, Ill. 10-16-44

ws Move to Broaden Illinois Law.

Gov. Green said yesterday that his administration would "use its utmost power and influence" to get the 1945 legislative session to prohibit discrimination against racial minorities in peace time businesses in Illinois. The state already has a law, signed by Gov. Green, prohibiting discrimination in war industries.

Oppression and discrimination against Negroes and other groups must end in America, the governor said in a speech at the Greater Bethesda Baptist church, 5301 Michigan av.

"Fighting for Justice."

"This war had its foundations in racial hatreds," Gov. Green said. "When America entered this war, we entered it on the side of tolerance and humanity, on the side of religion and brotherly love, which have their roots in great religious institutions such as this one, of which you may well be proud. We are not fighting for more land or money. We are fighting for justice for oppressed peoples.

"I say to you now that we must not make that fighting creed a hollow mockery by permitting racial discrimination here at home. We intend to establish a just peace that will end racial oppression abroad, but we can never maintain such a peace unless we also insist on ending racial discrimination here in America."

Negroes have political equality in Illinois despite its denial in southern states, the governor said in asking full support of the Constitution. 10-16-44

Restrictions Attacked.

"There are other freedoms which bigoted and selfish people would still restrict, and these restrictions your present administration has attacked thru new legislation," he continued. The present anti-discrimination law, Gov. Green said, was enacted while "realizing that if a man does not have the opportunity to have and hold a job his political freedom is virtually worthless to him, realizing that without equal economic opportunity, political equality is unable to achieve permanent, long-range benefits for racial minorities."

In a speech before a Republican audience in Lord's park, Elgin, Richard J. Lyons, the Republican nominee for senator, said that the New Deal and its Communist backers would doom private enterprise in America.

Says There Is One Issue.

"There is only one issue in the national and state political contests this year," Lyons said, "and that is whether this nation shall be returned to the system of free enterprise, encouragement of initiative and unlimited opportunities, and freedom of individual action, under which it has flourished for more than 150 years, or whether it shall continue down the path of socialism, collectivism, and regimentation, which the New Deal inner circle has marked out for it and which inevitably will lead us to disaster."

Lyons continued:

"The New Deal crew, which numbers Browder and Hillman, and their Communist henchmen among its dearest friends, places the reputable and substantial leaders of American industry and business among its deadliest enemies. 10-16-44

Business Men Ousted.

"We have seen the treatment accorded the patriotic business men who served their country by heading and making successful the greatest arms production program of all time.

"With the end of the war in sight, these men are being shown the nearest exit, and their places are being filled by ardent New Dealers in preparation for the new post-war spree of spending and taxing and electing, blithely oblivious of the fact that no nation, however rich and powerful, can survive indefinitely under that sort of system."

Court Orders Santa Fe to Retain Negro Porter-Brakemen

Courier Journal — Louisville, Ky.

11-1-44

Chicago, Oct. 31 (AP)—The Santa Fe Railway and twelve other defendants were restrained temporarily today by the Federal Court from dropping twenty-three Negro porter-brakemen from active service under a union contract.

The porter-brakemen, who perform switching and other duties, were to be removed tomorrow, the complaint alleged. Under the order of Judge Walter J. La Buy, action is delayed until November 21 when a 3-judge statutory court will pass on the constitutionality of the National Railroad Adjustment Act.

Union Bans Negroes.

In 1918, the suit set forth, William McAdoo, the federal director of railroads, ordered that Negroes employed as firemen, trainmen and switchmen be paid at the same rates as white employes. In April, 1942, the suit added, the Adjustment Board, first division, ruled that only union members could be employed as switchmen.

Since Negroes are barred from membership in the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen, the suit alleged, they are being deprived of their property rights under the Fifth Amendment to the Constitution, through a contract between the Santa Fe and the Brotherhood signed April 27, 1944.

11-1-44

Board Is Defendant.

The suit, filed in behalf of the porters, was entered as a class suit representing interests of 300 men in similar positions. Defendants included the Railroad Adjustment Board and F. W. Coyle, vice president of the Brotherhood.

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Skilled Negro Manpower Untapped Here, Doyle Says

Courier-Journal - Louisville, Ky. 3-16-44

Louisville Negro population is an insufficiently tapped source of skilled manpower, Dr. Bertram W. Doyle, dean of the Municipal College for Negroes, declared yesterday.

Speaking from WAVE yesterday, as part of a nation-wide program sponsored by the National Urban League to study vocational problems of Negroes, he asserted that "if the city were combed today, Negroes would be found who possess skills so needed in the war industries."

"The Negro wants opportunity, not alms," he continued. "The Negro stands today in the hour of America's great need, pleading for vocational opportunity, asking that his labor and effort may be harnessed in order that production may not lag." 3-16-44

Dr. Doyle will speak again at 4:30 p.m. today from WHAS. Negro schools, churches and organizations are observing the twelfth vocational opportunity campaign here this week in cooperation with the national league.

Denial of Plant Training To Negroes Is Protested

Courier-Journal — Louisville, Ky.
7-30-44

Despite an outstanding improvement in the employment of Negroes in the Louisville area, there has been practically no "in-plant training" extended to Negroes to prepare them for higher skilled jobs, Robert E. Black, executive secretary of the Urban League, said yesterday in his report on Negro employment.

"The Urban League is very concerned about this problem," he said, "for there can be no full utilization of Negro labor as long as the Negro employe is denied training. Since the great shortage in this area at present is in unskilled labor there is a definite tendency to limit Negroes to these unskilled jobs."

Increase Shown. 7-30-44

According to the Louisville Area War Manpower Commission report of May of this year, 107 reporting firms with total employmen of 92,063 showed 9,566 Negro employes or about 10.4 per cent of total employment. This is an increase over the 8.1 per cent figure for September of 1943. A report from the W.M.C.'s Washington office of January, 1944, stated that Negroes constituted about 7.2 per cent of total reported employment from 65 per cent of all essential war employers in the country.

Negro placements made by U.S.E.S. during April and May, Black continued, were 19 per cent of the total placements. Of the 9,566 Negroes employed as of May, the W.M.C. report shows 6,307 were in manufacturing.

Although women constitute approximately a third of the total industrial employment as reported by W.M.C.—and though there has been an increase in the employment of Negro women—there is still a large reservoir of Negro women with much needed potential skills who could fill the acute labor needs in local industries, Black asserted.

Kentucky

Negro Bellhops Replaced by Whites

12-14-44
Savannah, Ga. Tribune

FAILURE TO UNIONIZE CONTRIBUTING CAUSE

LOUISVILLE, (ANP)—The replacement of Negro bellboys with white returning veterans at the huge Kentucky hotel is another indication of the need for the Negro workers to protect himself through organization, it was pointed out here Wednesday by Robert E Black, executive secretary of the Louisville Urban league. 12-14-44

Mr. Black disclosed that his organization had contacted the hotel officials relative to the change, but had been advised it was too late to make "any adjustments."

The hotel manager was quoted by Black as saying he did not want to make the chage, but he was unable to get a full crew of Negro bellmen because of War Mapower commissio restrictions limiting referrals to returning veterans, and that the new white crew was made up chiefly of such veterans.

USES officials disclosed that the hotel manager had made no attempt to secure Negro veterans. 12-14-44

Mr. Black stated that Livingston Whaley, president of the restaurant employes, local 415, had made unsuccessful attempts to organize the Negro bellmen, but that only four or five had joined. Whaley asserted that if the union had obtained a contract with the hotel, the change could not have been effected.

Negro workers, Black declared, can no longer depend on the "goodness" of the employer for job permanency, urging them to affiliate themselves with some kind of labor organization. 12-14-44

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Louisiana

Refuse To Upgrade Shipyard Workers In New Orleans

Defender – Chicago 7-22-44

NEW ORLEANS — The Todd-Johnson Drydock company, Algiers, La., is "the only shipyard plant in Orleans parish that maintains a separate wage-scale for whites and Negroes, it was disclosed this week by W. Don Ellinger, examiner-in-charge of the Fair Employment Practice committee regional office in Dallas, Tex.

At the same time, the Consolidated-Vultee Airplane plant, Lake Pontchartrain, La., was cited for its "non-prejudicial attitude in hiring and upgrading Negro personnel.

It was reported that Todd-Johnson has flatly refused to upgrade Negro employees. Negroes are restricted to common labor jobs and company officials see no reason why a change should be made. Statistics reveal that the situation at Consolidated here is better than at any other southern plant operated by that company. 7-22-44

Investigations reveal that despite the reported manpower shortage in New Orleans there are few or no semi-skilled workers, clerical workers or staff workers in the following governmental agencies: Office of Price Administration, U. S. Weather Bureau, New Orleans Army Air Base, Civil Service Commission, War Manpower Commission, U. S. Employment Service, Social Security Board, and the Department of Internal Revenue.

One consoling factor is the move on the part of the Civil Service Commission to assign prospective employees to the agencies. It is claimed by citizens, however, that in many instances actual discrimination is practiced by those who are charged with the personnel work at the agencies. 7-22-44

In a statement issued a few days following the press conference, W. H. O'Kelly, former area director of the war manpower commission released the following statistics pertinent to Negro labor: "Three times as many Negro laborers are employed in essential industry in New Orleans as there were a year ago... Nevertheless, some Negro labor did not accept employment." Recent occurrences here disclose that many Negroes, trained for semi-skilled jobs, upon making application at the USES are either offered employment in some other section of the United States or are told that Negroes are not being employed in said capacities. Recently, a group of Negro shipfitters quit at a local shipyard because they were forced to work as laborers.

Labor Shortage

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS, La. — Despite the serious manpower shortage in a number of plants turning out essential war materials, the American Federation of Labor failed last week to consider lowering the color bar in certain of its unions to meet the production needs of the Army. 12-9-44

In a conferenc held at the Roosevelt hotel here by a federal government official and several AFL leaders, including President William Green, for the purpose of devising ways and means to meet production quotas of heavy artillery shells, light ammunition, castings for heavy trucks, duck for tents, and other items of war, the union held fast to its present policies on the race question.

In a press conference after the meeting, President Green, in reply to a question as to whether the availability of Negro workers had been considered as a means to relieve the manpower shortage, stated that the question camp up "only incidentally," and with regard to jobs in foundries, "where a majority of those now employed are Negroes.

He said that the molders' problem is the one of deepest concern because it is a heavy, dirty work with low wage scales, and has not attracted many workers. 12-9-44

However, a suggestion made in the meeting that Negro workers be imported from Jamaica and other islands of the West Indies to help meet the foundry emergency met with vigorous objections from Harry Stevenson, head of the Molders' union.

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Color Bar Kept By AFL Despite

Defender – Chicago

Maryland

Baltimore Job Ban Still Strong

By L. HARVEY KERNS
Executive Secretary,
Baltimore Urban League

BALTIMORE, Md.—This is a city of many racial complexes. In it are found many of the attitudes in a typical New England community; on the other hand are attitudes reflecting every phase of racial relations found in the deep south. Baltimore is ultra-conservative in its general make-up. It is static in many of its relations, but in none is its conservativeness more pronounced than its attitudes and relations toward the Negro.

There has always been a relatively large Negro population in the city, which has increased at phenomenal rate since the advent of World War II. The Negro population is listed as 166,567 in the 1940 census had increased, according to reliable estimates, to 200,000 by the end of 1943. Lured to the city by the need of manpower in the shipyards and war factories, thousands of Negro workers were employed mainly as laborers and semi-skilled workers. Negroes employed as skilled workers in the hundreds of industries manufacturing war equipment are still in the token class.

Frozen In Jobs

Recently a three-day strike resulted in one of the city's largest shipbuilding yards when a few Negroes were permitted to enter a company school for the training of welders which were sorely needed. Hundreds of Negroes are daily complaining that they are underemployed or have been frozen on jobs under their maximum skill. Problems of Negroes being upgraded are daily complaints.

Though War Manpower Chief Paul McNutt declared womanpower vital to defense, the Negro women in Baltimore have experienced great difficulty, not only in securing employment for which they are trained, but any kind of employment to aid in the prosecution of the war. While several of the larger industries have employed Negro women, token employment is still evident.

For more than a year Negro women have sought to break down the barriers which prevent them from securing opportunities in war industries and public utilities. Negro women who daily read screaming headlines of "Women Wanted" are told on applying that the jobs are filled or politely, or otherwise, the job is for white girls.

Chief among these offenders is the local telephone company which, though hard pressed for telephone operators, steadfastly refuses to consider Negroes, in spite of the fact that more than 50 at their own expense received special training over a period of several months by a private operator in order to qualify. War needs seem to have little effect on the attitudes of employer and employee in the city.

Housing No. 1 Problem

Recently a number of employees of three local Western Electric company plants went on strike after an announcement by the War Labor Board that it had rejected the request of an employees' association for an order requiring the establishment of separate toilet facilities for white and Negro workers at the five Western Electric plants here. This controversy which has been breeding for several weeks has been a potent factor in developing racial tensions and threatens to envelop the entire city.

The No. 1 problem affecting the local Negro population is the housing problem. Nine months ago the Federal Public Housing Authority authorized 2,000 units of housing for Negro war workers. Various sites which were selected by the Federal agency met with local opposition by white residents, members of the City Council, local Senators and Congressmen, and real estate interests. Several mass meetings were held by white residents with the aid and cooperation of white Protestant ministers, a Catholic priest, and a former Jewish rabbi.

Servicemen Incidents

Few things have happened in the city which have had a more serious effect on the morale of Negro workers than the 11-month controversy over the location of Negro housing projects and hate strikes.

Recent killings of Negro soldiers, incidents experienced by Negro officers and enlisted men on southern trains and buses have received wide-spread publicity, and are reflected in the expressions of Negroes from barber shop forums to public assemblies, all who raise the question, "Is this what we're fighting and sacrificing for?"

Experiences in public contacts of Negro servicemen in uniform have been disappointing. Downtown restaurants will not serve them. Two sailors on furlough waited an hour at the railroad station at 1 a.m. for a taxi, even though their fellows in service who were white had little difficulty. Disgusted, the two men walked more than a mile to their homes in a subfreezing temperature.

Negroes in Baltimore are rather general in their belief that the war has had little or no effect on softening the attitudes of the large majority of their fellow white neighbors toward them. Realizing this fact, many are joining trade unions in the hope that their participation will aid in securing the protection of seniority rights and other safeguards the unions will offer in post-war employment.

Post-War Jobs

Because of newly acquired skills of Negro workers and favorable experiences of many employers who hire them, indications point to a continuation of many of the new jobs they have secured. Many employers have openly declared themselves in this regard.

There are many other problems affecting Negroes in this metropolis which are irritating factors in present race relations. The policy and practice of downtown department stores in refusing to serve Negro patrons, especially women, is a practice peculiar to Baltimore. Hundreds of Negro women who wish to be served in wearing apparel must go to Washington, Philadelphia, or New York.

These problems and the dearth of recreational opportunities in the face of a rising tide of juvenile delinquency and adult crime are all parts of a Baltimore of complexes and contradictions.

Negro Hiring Discrimination Denied in Md.

Baltimore, Aug. 4 (AP).—The Baltimore area's record in the hiring of Negroes was said by War Manpower Director Lawrence B. Fenneman today to be the best in the country.

"The regional director of the War Manpower Commission has advised me just recently that 'Baltimore has put a greater percentage of individuals belonging to minority groups to work than any other city based either on population, industrial plants or dollar volume of essential materials produced'," Fenneman declared.

Reply to Charges

He made the comment to newspapermen after a group of Negro civic, religious and labor leaders had charged that there was discrimination in the hiring of Negroes in the Baltimore area.

Commenting that the proportion of Negroes in Baltimore was about 18 per cent of the total population, Fenneman asserted:

1. That during the 18 months from January 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, the referrals of Negroes to jobs by the United States Employment Service were more than 30 per cent of the total referrals;

2. That during July, under the new priority referral program, this percentage rose to 39.7;

3. That from January 1, 1943, to June 30, 1944, the actual placements of nonwhites in jobs were more than 32 per cent of the total placements;

4. That during July this percentage rose to 35.8 per cent.

"Largely as a result of these figures the percentage of nonwhites to the total employment by the 270 firms reporting to the WMC rose from 6.9 in May, 1942, to 15.08 in January, 1944, and 14.64 in May, 1944," Fenneman declared.

Four Charges Lodged

The delegation which met with Fenneman was headed by Alexander J. Allen, industrial secretary of the Baltimore Urban League, and it charged that:

1. Negro women were being especially discriminated against by employers;

2. That all Negroes were referred to the Lombard st. office of the USES, although all skilled labor, regardless of race, is supposed to be sent to the Hopkins pl. office;

3. That the USES observes discriminatory specifications, such as "male-white" or "female-colored";

4. That Negroes eligible for jobs at the Hopkins pl. office had been refused knowledge of such vacancies when they applied at the Lombard st. offices.

Fenneman said he was satisfied that no discriminatory bias affected USES or WMC employes in the performance of their jobs, and added that although he told the committee he would investigate any individual cases in which discrimination was alleged, none was presented to him.

AFL Rebuffs Colored Labor

Kills Resolution to End Auxiliary Unions

TWO WHITES FOR IT

Secession Threatened at Cumberland Session

CUMBERLAND, Md. — A resolution outlawing "auxiliary unions" and giving full union status to colored workers was killed on Wednesday by the Maryland and District of Columbia Federation of Labor (AFL) during its 39th annual convention here this week.

Only two white delegates stood with the colored workers in their fight for democracy within the union embodied in the resolution introduced by H. E. Johns and A. C. Speight, members of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, resulting in a long and acrimonious debate.

The action of the delegates was taken in the face of a threat by colored labor leaders that their unions would withdraw from the AFL if colored unionists were not given full union status, which leaves the next move up to colored members of the AFL.

Resolution Is Quoted

The resolution, which pointed out that auxiliary union members are barred from active participation in conventions and deprived of self-government, declared:

"It has been demonstrated that the auxiliary form of union has been inimical to the workers and only serves to render colored workers second-class union membership in the labor movement.

"During the period of our national emergency and the post-war period it is most important that national unity be maintained by solidifying the workers, regardless of race, creed, or color."

Is Reported Unfavorably

The resolution was reported unfavorably to the body by its organization committee which urged that it be killed "because (its) adoption would violate the constitution of the international union which provides for auxiliary unions."

The two white delegates who urged adoption of the resolution are Samuel Gordon, Baltimore member of the International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, and Thomas A. Reed, Motion Picture Operators' Union, Local 224, Washington.

Hawkins Threatens Secession

John A. Hawkins, Baltimore delegate from the Glass Bottle Blowers of American, Local 23, spearheading the fight of the colored unionists, declared:

"There is a move on foot at this time for many organizations to withdraw from the AFL State and Central bodies because of a lack of participation. Unless something concrete is done in conventions to assure co-operation, then you may look for some drastic action."

Gilbert Joyce, delegate from Washington Local 5, Iron Workers' Union, asked Mr. Hawkins whether he were "holding the hammer over our heads by threatening to withdraw Local 33." Mr. Hawkins replied:

Won't Eat His Words

"I did say it. It is the feeling of the colored people in the organization and I do not retract it."

Opponents of the resolution argued that only the international officials of the union could act in the matter and that auxiliary unions were a "fundamental necessity in the AFL organization."

Charles S. Hill, delegate from Washington, nominated among seven candidates for vice-president, was defeated in the balloting Wednesday, the six whites being elected.

CIO Leaders Comment

"We are disappointed, to say the least, to learn that the AFL is continuing this undemocratic policy, the convention defeating every resolution to ban discrimination in the unions," W. Richard Carter, member of the general executive board, IUMSWA, told the AFRO Thursday.

"The IUMSWA, CIO, has gone all out for victory in our policy never to discriminate in our organization," he declared, "knowing that to discriminate is to divide the workers at this time, a thing most dangerous to our war effort."

"I am forced to speak out on the failure of the AFL to abolish its auxiliary union set-up for colored workers," declared Thomas Aydlett, organizer for the IUMSWA, adding:

"It is urgent that at a time like this all workers, regardless of color or creed, stand shoulder to shoulder on the production lines as well as on the battlefront.

"While the AFL is calling for national unity, it is at the same time discriminating against black worker. The AFL seems to lose sight of the fact that as a labor organization it is supposed to speak for the common people."

Women Can't Make Jeeps at Carter Carburetor Co.

Miss Bertha Brown, who also has two brothers in service; Mrs. Margey Foster and Miss Bessie Mae Lyles, also denied jobs at Baltimore, Md.

G. B. PEARSON, Supervisor of U.S. Employment Service.

MR. TRIMBLE—What do you records show as regards this company?

MR. PEARSON—In all orders for workers, the company expressed a preference for white workers.

THEODORE BROWN, Examiner for FEPC

MR. TRIMBLE—Did you have a conference with the management of this plant?

MR. BROWN — Yes, I talked with Mr. Weld, president of the company. He said they didn't need colored workers, but explained that four colored men who had recently been hired were an exception and their employment was not to be construed as a new policy, but rather "an exception."

MILTON WEBSTER, FEPC member—You say you don't discriminate. How do you reconcile work shortage, applied for job at Carter Carburetor Co., Baltimore, Md., and truck driver. Husband is in Army.

MR. TRIMBLE—What happened when you applied?

A—I was told there were no openings for colored women at present.

MRS. OLLIE M. HAYNES, Graduate of A and I State College, 6 months' experience on assembly line at U.S. Cartridge, laid off by company explained as a new

MISS VORA THOMPSON, B.S. University of Illinois, Miss Smith, Examiner for FEPC; a member of the company explained as a new

JAMES E. GARSTANG, Company representative.

that with the order to the U.S. Employment Service for "white" workers only?

MR. GARSTANG—I don't know that that constitutes discrimination. We don't think the witnesses' statements support a charge of discrimination. We have hired some men and will hire more and some women too. We're not going to discriminate against colored applicants as such.

35c-1944

Minnesota

Order Chain Store To Stop Discrimination In Hiring

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.
9-16-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—The National War Labor Board this week denied a petition for review of an order of the Sixth Regional WLB at Chicago, Illinois, in a dispute involving Montgomery Ward and Company and the Mail Order, Warehouse and Distribution Workers, CIO, bargaining agent for 1,091 employees in the company's store in St. Paul Minnesota.

Issues covered in the directive order, which the company had appealed, included a racial non-discrimination clause, wage increases, arbitration of grievances and duration of the contract.

The Regional Board's order stated that "it is understoood between the parties" that the company and union will "give fair and reasonable consideration to any applicant or employee" regardless of race, creed, color, nationality, non-union or union affiliation.

TERMED AMBIGUOUS 9-15-44

The company, in its appeal, contended there was no evidence of any condition in the plant which would be corrected by the clause, which it termed ambiguous and indefinite, and asserted that it would create grievances where none existed. It stated that employers in the retail industry commonly consider color or race in assigning jobs because of the prejudices of the buying public.

The National Board, in upholding the regional order, specifically stated that its action should not be construed as a finding that "either party has heretofore discriminated against any employee or applicant on account of race, color, or creed." 9-15-44

Industry members, in a dissenting opinion, stated that they agreed with the general principles set forth in the clause, but believed that it should not be ordered into a contract under any circumstances.

EXPLORE INJECTION

"The injection of a racial question in a dispute such as this, unless there were or are some flagrant acts on either the part of the union or the company which are definitely not present in this case, will only lead, in the opinion of the industry members, to further confusion in a field which unfortunately has had serious consequences as a result of misunderstandings," the opinion, written by Vincent P. Ahearn and Walter T. Margetts, stated.

The Regional Board also ordered a wage increase of seven and one-half cents an hour under the Little Steel formula, and a 50-cent hiring rate to eliminate substandard wages, the increases being retroactive to February 13, 1943, the date the case was certified to the Board. If a timely application for price relief is filed, the wage increases become effective only if the Office of Price Administration determines that no price change is necessary or approval is given by the Economic Stabilization Director.

Missouri

...kers Defy FDR; ...e Union Bias

...ille, Ill.

...CITY, Mo.—(ANP)— ...ity of the jim-crowism ...n of the AFL Interna... ...hood of Boilermak... ...Roose... ...members of the union ...problem "in a demo... 2.20.44

...ed to 450,000 ...ngaged in vital ...held its 17th conven... ...day without tak... ...step toward wiping ...discriminatory practices ...according to the resolution urging full ...Negro members in ...locals were abandoned. ...bers are permitted ...members of segre... ...ion" in which their ...voted.

...Roosevelt's letter was ...discussed or ac... ...by the machine, ...the newly elected ...Gowan, give con... ...to the 20-minute dis... ...AFL President William ...in accord with Presi... ...urged steps for ...of all manpower re... ...race, color or national ...

3-20-44

...Blacks Change

...President said," quoted ...have faith in you to set... ...problem in a democratic ...

...many delegates are ...wished to justify such ...controlling machine ...my effort.

...of the issue was ...on the convention ...referred to Pacific ...southern caucuses or... ...this purpose. The idea ...ended by the southern ...brought to the west ...ification.

...concessions made in ...Negroes was one which ...that representatives ...may attend the ...four years from ...for Negroes however, ...dance at last week's ...William B. Smith, ...retary of Auxiliary ...Richmond, Cal., was ...chairman.

8-20-44

St. Louis Shipbuilding Co. Sought "White" Workers

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

8-12-44

Makers of ships for Maritime Commission and U.S. Navy; has 1358 workers, but only a few colored men employed as janitors in offices, laborers and porters; all orders for workers specified "White only." Defense: Not many colored people are qualified to hold skilled jobs in the company and wast production of ship does not allow time to rtraining them.

SAMUEL L. HENTREL

Now employed as cook on Wabash Railroad, applied for job as welder.

FRANK REEVES, FEPC counsel—What were you told when you applied?

MR. HENTREL—The interviewer said the only jobs open for colored men were porter jobs.

JOHN W. JOYNER

Applied July 7 with referral card from USES, for job as welder; also denied.

EDWARD F. NEFF

Manager of industrial relations.

MR. TRIMBLE—Did you ever ask for workers and not specify race?

8-12-44

MR. NEFF—We don't specify race, I think the USES itself asked us if we had any preference and we said "white."

Q—Do you hire any colored workers?

A—Yes, as janitors, laborers and porters, but we have no colored in the factory crafts.

Q—Do you still now prefer white workers only?

A—No.

Q—Do you mean that if you were hiring, and when you begin, you will utilize colored?

A—When we start hiring, we MAY give consideration to all people.

C. A. AHNER

Labor relations counsellor, said it is the intention of the shipbuilding company to hire people indiscriminately. "We will first re-employ our old workers," he said, "and when hiring of new workers begins we will not obviously discriminate. We understand the purpose of the committee and its orders."

8-12-44

Members of the FEPC who conducted the St. Louis hearing are: Malcolm Ross, chairman; Boris Shishkin, representing AFL; John Brophy, CIO; Milton Webster, International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Miss Sara Southall, Interantional Harvester Co., and Charles Houston, former NAACP counsel. Charles Horn, Minneapolis, was not present.

6,400 Openings But Whites Bar Negro Workers

Atlanta, Ga.

Union Officials Resign Protesting Members' Action

10-29-44

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — Opposition by white employes at the St Louis ordnance plant to the company's hiring Negro help to fill some of the 6,400 vacancies at the plant resulted in an almost riotous meet Sunday at Kiel auditorium where 475 workers gathered in an open meeting of the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, Local 825.

The union previously had adopted a resolution which stated that the company should hire workers as needed, "regardless of race, color or creed." At the meeting on Sunday when the union reversed this position the local president, Otte Maschoff, and Betty Raab, secretary-treasurer, resigned their posts.

OFFERED RESOLUTION

The resolution which Maschoff had introduced, stated in part: "That we reaffirm our beliefs in the policies of our union, the CIO and the nation to prevent and eliminate discrimination in employment because of race, color or creed.

"That we indorse the re-employment of all laid off members, Negro or white, and other needed workers in such departments as may be necessary to fulfill the production requirements set by the war department for our plant;

"That the union, through its officers, call those of its members, no matter where they may be found, to acount for aiding or abetting the division in the ranks of our union because of race, creed or color."

SHOUT PROTEST

Though the resolution was adopted, 30 minutes later when a worker rose and asked whether the resolution meant the company was to follow its plans, members shouted their protest. A motion from the floor to allow Negroes to work in the packing department resulted in defeat. It was then that Maschoff and Miss Raab resigned.

"The union is prepared to lend its full co-operation to the company and the government to man the plant with workers, regardless of race, creed or color, where they are needed to get out the ammunition," William Sentner, general vice president of the union, said Monday.

"Stop this interracial bickering and attend to the job of winning the war," the Rev. John P. Markee, S. J., and Edwin Meissner chairman of the St. Louis Race Relations committee, urged.

James said he no longer belongs to a union. He's ineligible for the dining car group now, and the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, which represents stewards, bars Negroes. "I'm sorta on my own," he observed, "but whatever the white fellows get, I get also."

6,400 War Jobs Open But Negroes Barred

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

12-30-44

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Upset Resolution

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...car of a Wash... ...York train last ...outhful looking, ...was asked to ...his change in ...

12-30-44

..." he said. He ...the AFL Dining ...on. He said the ...ded the upgrad... ...any, a thing that ...e felt, by the ...n Philadelphia."

* * *

Pennsy Steward Credits Union

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — At least one of the five Negro stew- ards on the Pennsylvania railroad attributes his upgrading to the AFL dining car union and to the Philadelphia Transit strike, and admitted to no particular knowl- ...Chicago and two out of New York, ...James is one of the latter ...status.

...week. ...affable and neat, ...

...He was made steward in ...although he had been a ...was referring to the ...August ...waiter-in-charge for three years ...Car Employes' union. ...before, ...union had negotiated ...

..."The only difference," he said, ...ing with the company, a ...is that now I wear a white vest." ...was facilitated, he felt, by the ...Approached during a slack mo- ...transit situation in Phila...

35c-1944

New Jersey

...30 of 14,500 ...t American ...ters Colored

Baltimore, Md.

Hires 25 Girl Clerks, Says Jersey Phone Co.

5 OTHERS LABORERS

12-7-44

All-White Maintenance Crews, Operator Satffs

NEWARK, N.J.—The New Jersey Bell Telephone Company, which employs 14,500 persons, has a total of forty to fifty colored workers throughout the State, according to Andrew P. Monroe, executive board member.

Approximately twenty-five of the colored persons are said to be girls in clerical jobs and the remainder are janitors, porters and car washers.

The company employs no colored central switchboard operators and sees no immediate prospect of any being integrated into these positions. Further, there are no colored men in the maintence and repair department.

"Reasons" for Situation

The reasons for this, according to Mr. Monroe and J. B. McCullen, recently appointed vice-president, is that "no men have been hired during the past three years and the company's policy of trying to integrate colored persons was not instituted until 1941."

During an interview at which seven men were present, the AFRO was told:

"The company has no prejudice against the hiring of colored workers, has outlined a 'long-range' hiring program which will, in time, give more and more jobs to such persons."

"Colored Worker Efficient"

Those now working for the company have exhibited a high calibre of efficiency, especially the women in the clerical department.

This integration program necessarily would have to be developed slowly in order not to interfere with the morale or efficiency of other employes who may find it distasteful or against their disposition to work with colored persons.

Mr. Monroe expressed the opinion that during a war when telephones are so important to the war effort, "the hiring of colored persons should not be pushed, for it may create unpleasant complications."

"Can't Meet Requirments"

He stated also that another reason for the small number of colored women employed was that they are unable to meet our high education requirements."

He intimated that the ability of the average colored high school graduate is below that of the average white high school graduate, even though both may have had the same type of training.

"Just because a girl may be efficient in a factory or on an assembly line is no indication that she possesses the qualifications for a good central operator," he declared.

No Fear of Strike

Mr. Monroe was not sure, however, whether or not all the company's operators could qualify as efficient factory workers.

Referring to the recent operators' strike in Ohio, the men said it was unlikely that similar complications would develope here, as "we have found it unnecessary to bring in outside workers."

Again mentioning potential colored workers, they said that company was acceptng applications for clerical positions and would hire any who qualified.

35c-1944

Bonnie Burnell In One-Man Drive Against Segregation

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt Md. 11-19-44

New York

One of the most vibrant personalities in New York's theatrical circles is luscious Bonnie Burnell, who despite her ambitions to be a great actress, has found time enough to undertake, singlehandedly, to crack through the vicious jim crow employment policies of the N.Y. Telephone Company, and also of Macy's Department Store. 11-18-44

Miss Burnell, a product of the American Negro Theatre, is considered by many the equal of Lena Horne as a singer, and as capable an actress as our own Hilda Simms, star of "Anna Lucasta."

In an exclusive AFRO interview in her apartment at 120 W. 123rd Street, this week, she revealed that she has a case in the FEPC against the telephone company for refusing to hire her as a telephone operator.

Got Ole Run-Around

"It happened about three months ago," she explained. I didn't want the job, but I get a kick out of going around to these places to see their reaction to a colored girl applying for a decent position.

"I went down to their employment office and filled out an application for a telephone operator's job. After all, that isn't such a high-class job, and I have two years of college credit. So I figured they wouldn't refuse me. By the way, there was nothing about race or religion in the application.

"When I was interviewed," Miss Burnell continued, "the interviewer told me that, 'I wasn't the type for the job.' Besides, she said that a complete college education was one of the qualifications, and that my college training was insufficient to qualify me.

"Now, if that isn't the most ridiculous answer! Think of it! you've got to have a college degree for a telephone operator's job! I knew very well what she meant about my not being the type for the job. I was colored — and that eliminated me!

Offered Contact Post

"However, she offered me a contact job in one of their offices. This type of position is similar to a complaint receiver. All you do is sit in the office and handle people who come in and want to register complaints about service or things like that.

"I turned this offer down, and took up my case with Robert Jones of the FEPC. I know he's had a lot of conferences with company officials so far. I hope he's successful. It will mean a lot to our race if he wins."

Still not content with just bucking up against this company, Miss Burnell told the AFRO that she decided to try Macy's for a sales job. 11-18-44

"So I went ahead an called up Macy's," she said, "and spoke to Miss Hyde, personnel head. I asked her whether there were any sales positions open now. Miss Hyde answered that, 'there were lots of sales jobs at the store . . . that they needed many people . . . and to come down and apply right away.'

"I then asked her whether this applied to colored people, too," Bonnie continued, "and I sensed that she was taken aback. She said, 'Oh, that depends upon qualifications, and that there were many other jobs open for me.'

"Well, I went down and asked to speak to Miss Hyde. She avoided seeing me, and turned me over to Miss Higgins, her assistant. I told Miss Higgins I wanted a sales position."

Termed Pugnacious

On hearing this, Miss Higgins old Bonnie that she was "too pugnacious" for this type of job, and that she could let her have other positions. Bonnie asked what she meant by pugnacious, and she replied that the fact that she insisted upon seeing Miss Hyde when she should have been satisfied in being interviewed by one of their interviewers proved her point. She further stated that her pugnacity would undoubtedly get her into trouble with customers, and that Macy's could not afford to take a chance with her in a sales job.

"I asked her whether there wasn't a racial angle involved in my not getting the job," Bonnie said, "and she said it was only a matter of qualifications, and that I didn't qualify. 11-18-44

"Again, just like the telephone company, I was offered a list of other jobs . . . except the one I wanted to get."

Miss Burnell told the AFRO that she has been in the theatre since 1939, even though she's only 19. Starting with the YMCA Little Theatre Group, she has played the leading roles in several plays, and also had the alternate lead in the American Negro Theatre production of "Three's a Family."

Offered "Lucasta" Post

"I could have had the leading role played by Hilda Simms in "Anna Lucasta," she explained, "but I didn't have the time to rehearse all day Sunday as was necessary. That let me out.

"I expect to be signed for a singing spot at the Zanzibar shortly. However, acting in the legitimate theatre is my first love, and that's what I'm going to concentrate on.

"Along the way, I'll take time out to try and break up a little of that discrimination wherever I can. I'm very conscious of my race, and I want to fight against all the hatreds and prejudices practiced against my people. I believe the theatre is one of the best ways to press forward."

ither upgrading nor lack of upgrading affects one's seniority status.

The Sperry plant has a contract with Local 430 of the electrical union. Both union and management cooperated with the National Negro Congress in making the survey, which was based on the company records as of November. It was found that under present seniority rules:

* Negroes are seven per cent of the force of filer and burrers, but in case of a 50 per cent layoff, the percentage would be reduced to three per cent.

* Negroes are two per cent of the assembler, but in case of the 50 per cent layoff, the percentage would be reduced to one-third of one per cent.

* Negroes are two per cent of the inspectors, but under the layoff they will be reduced to zero.

The Congress concludes that while seniority adjustments are not necessary in every plant, the unmodified application of the rules in many places will tend to freeze pre-war discriminations in post-war industry. Even with full employment, Miss Dale states the problem remains, for in the process of transferring workers from war work to peace time employment. Negroes will suffer because of their later hiring dates.

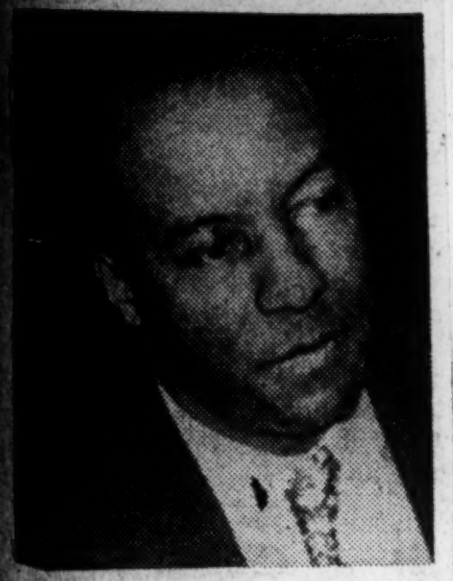
The People's Voice New York 12-2-44

35c-1944

New York

Protest Negro Discrimination By Metropolitan Insurance

Northwest Herald – Seattle, Wash. 10-18-44



Led by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters' Union, the New York City unit of the March on Washington mobilized a protest picket line around the Harlem office of the nationally known Metropolitan Insurance Company this week. The demonstration was because of the continued flagrant refusal of the company to employ Negroes though Negroes all over our nation carry policies. 10-18-44

Recently requests for employment as clerks, insurance agents and other positions were made by Negro men and women with adequate experience and educational qualifications. Meanwhile, a high ranking official of the company, in a letter, stated that the firm had never employed and would never employ a Negro other than as porter because a Negro would never meet the company's qualifications.

The anti-Negro employment policy of this official of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company sounds like Hitler. He only confirms the fact that after the Allies defeat Hitler's Nazi armies, we not only will have the task of licking the Japs, but turn our full attack to eliminate our home-bred fascist minded elements of long standing. The only difference between their policy and Hitler's is—Hitler is in Germany and they are in America. 10-18-44

During the dark days of depression in Germany, Hitler called upon all "real" Germans to prove their loyalty by refusing to employ Jews. As Hitler rose in power he firmly established his anti-Jewish employment policy in all business and government posts and finally confiscated all business, property and wealth belonging to Jews. It would be far-fetched to state this anti-Negro employment policy of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company and of other like enterprises will become the policy of all American business men. There will always be Americans who will practice in their dealings what they believe in the U. S. Constitution and the Bill of Rights. However, we must protest and inform those who cloak themselves in this anti-Negro employment attitude that we will never be satisfied with less than equal opportunity for jobs to insure our social and economic welfare. 10-18-44 The action of the New York Citp unit of the March on Washington movement should be heralded by Negroes all over America. They have asked only what every American is entitled, the right to work under democratic conditions. That is what they tell us white and black Americans are giving their blood and lives for in Europe and in the South Pacific.

This anti-Negro policy of employment by a firm that for years prospered from nickels and dimes paid by poor Negro insurance policy holders should serve as our guide for a militant progressive economic program among all Negroes. We cannot establish an economic movement totally separate from the "world" that we are associated with in our daily lives. However, where such an economic program within our group ends, it should continue with others in our community and nation willing to afford us opportunity of employment, economic cooperation and advancement. 10-18-44

Such an economic program necessarily must be cognizant of the Negro's community problems in the particular section of the country. Where Negro enterprises exist our merchantmen and professionals should seek out every method to attract and satisfy the Negro consumer. It is not enough to think being a Negro business man, the Negroes must patronize your enterprise. The consumer wants its demands met at lowest cost with highest quality. While I believe Negro consumers should patronize Negro enterprises, this is but a small part of our task. There are many enterprises in which Negro business men are not engaged and because of present day streamline competitive methods, will find permanent success very difficult. The answer again I give you is a broad consumer-producer cooperative movement. 10-18-44

This broad consumer-producer cooperative movement should be back operative movement should be backed up by such militant action as mobilized by the New York unit of the March on Washington Movement. We should patronize those firms in all fields of business that afford us employment and economic cooperation.

We must ever be on the guard. We must unit for economic freedom.

FORWARD. —C. N. S.

Factory Jobs Of 35 Negro Women Saved By Union

Defender – Chicago, Ill. 7-15-44

NEW YORK. — Ferdinand C. Smith, chairman of the Negro Labor Victory Committee this week, congratulated Benjamin Pross, business manager of the Cosmetic, Soap and Perfumery Workers Local 20646, AFL, for the effective way in which the union blocked an attempt of Pinaud Cosmetic Co., to discharge 35 Negro women employees.

On July 3, several of the Negro women employees who had been segregated on a night shift at Pinaud sought the help of the Negro Labor Victory Committee in adjusting a series of grievances which arose out of the discriminatory attitude on behalf of the management.

On July 5, the company sought to discharge the entire night shift, consisting solely of Negro women workers, because they had protested against the lack of sanitary facilities, proper working conditions, and lockers, all of which conveniences were available to the white women employees of the company.

When the situation was brought to the attention of the union officials, they immediately took steps to assure all of these Negro employees the full protection guaranteed by the contract which the union holds with the company. Investigation by the union showed that, for the time being at least, the company was discontinuing the night shift in the department where the Negro employees had been working. 7-15-44

Upstate Hearings Show Race Bias

The Worker – New York, N.Y. 12-3-44

By HARRY RAYMOND

BUFFALO.—The conclusion of a series of four up-state public hearings concluded here by the 23-man New York State Commission Against Discrimination threw a sharp, searching light on the various sinister practices of race, color and creed bias that the proposed Empire State Fair Employment Practices Commission will have to tackle once the suggested legislation to set up the body is adopted by the Legislature.

And three full days of further hearings commencing Monday in the New York City Bar Association chambers can be expected to conclude whatever argument that is necessary for speedy pasage of this new type of tradition-shattering laws.

EVIDENCE OVERWHELMING

Despite pious protestations on the part of such industrialists as Forrest McGuire, of the Manufacturers Association of Syracuse, and A. E. Crockett, of the Industrial Management Council of Rochester, that they were aware of no race, creed or color discrimination in the field of employment, scores of witnesses held the investigating commission's attention for hours with tragic first-hand testimony of how American citizens were barred from jobs, economic advancement and an equal democratic opportunity in their communities—how they were threatened indecently, insulted and otherwise Jimcrowed—because they were of a different nationality, religion or shade of skin than the majority of their fellow citizens.

Democratic Albany, the testimony showed, was as bad as Republican Syracuse, in neither town does the local administration permit Negroes to serve on its police force or fire department, and in Albany, witnesses brought out, Negro graduates of the N. Y. State Teachers College are denied positions in the school system. According to Mrs. Wardell R obinson, state capital schools are denied the services of these Albany trained educators, who find it necessary to migrate to the Jimcrow South to practice their profession and obtain a livelihood.

CITIES, STATE GUILTY

So it is clear that if and when the five-man Fair Employment Practices Commission is set up to probe Jimcrow, halt and punish its perpetrators, city and state government agencies may well be among the first defendants.

Assembly leader Irving M. Ives, chairman of the investigating commission which authored the proposed anti-discrimination bills, and other commissioners representing labor, industry, religious groups and the schools, piled up data on anti-Semitism in Syracuse factories, discrimination against Polish catholics in the Rochester school system, refusal of Rochester manufacturers to hire workers because they were of Italian origin.

The Delco Light Co., was charged with denying workers who are Negroes to advance beyond a sweepers job, despite a manpower shortage and the fact that Negroes seeking advancement were workers with proved ability for the positions sought.

Many proposals to strengthen the proposed bills so as to meet these various types of discrimination have been offered and the commission, which appears to favor making its bills workable and effective, is seriously studying them. The hearings so far have brought forth the need for some amendments to these otherwise excellent bills.

Dewey Commission Would End Economic Prejudice

Atlanta Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Two Measures May Be Sent To New York Assembly For Action

11-25-44

NEW YORK — (ANP) — Two bills designed to put an end to racial and religious discriminatory practices in employment were last week completed by the New York State Commission Against Discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin is hereby recognized and declared to be a civil right," summarizes the contents of both bills.

The program, now undergoing lengthy discussions, may sometime soon reach the legislature and may become law, the commissioners believe.

The commission which was hand picked by Gov. Dewey last June after the general public became indignant over the New York governor's negligence in doing something about racial and religious prejudice, has programmed seven public hearings, which are slated to begin in Albany, Nov. 27, and end in this city on Dec. 6 prior to submission of the bills to the legislature. Irving M. Ives, assembly majority leader, heads the group.

Embraced in the two bills are proposals for a state FEPC as an executive department under the governor; greater state's attorney general powers to enable him to supersede a district attorney in discrimination cases and devise legal actions to enforce orders of the proposed state commission.

Commissioners seek power to probe job bias complaints; create community advisory councils to study discrimination problems in "all or specific fields of human relationships;" publish all findings which endeavor to foster goodwill and "minimize or eliminate discrimination."

Bill No. 1 brands as unlawful the following job practices: refusal of any employer to hire any person for job because of race, creed or color; discrimination by a labor union; distribution of job forms which either directly or indirectly inquires concerning an applicant's race, religion or national origin, unless based upon "bona fide occupational qualification." The commission plans to bar from protection of the bill all domestic service.

Bill No. 2 gives the attorney general the power to enforce state laws against discrimination or to enforce the commission's orders.

Policyholders Organize

Metropolitan Faces Demands Of Negroes

Pittsburgh Courier
Pittsburgh, Pa. 11-25-44

NEW YORK—When the Metropolitan Life Insurance company conducts its general meeting in April it will be faced with demands made by thousands of Negroes, many of them policy holders. At this meeting, to which all policyholders are entitled to come and elect a board of directors and chairman, Negroes will demand that the Metropolitan drop its discriminatory housing projects, hire colored people in all types of jobs "in addition to the menial ones now doled out," and place Negro representatives on the board of directors.

ORGANIZING POLICYHOLDERS

Behind this campaign is the March-on-Washington Movement, headed by A. Philip Randolph. At present the Movement is making an attempt to organize the 2,500,000 Negro policyholders in the U.S.A., in preparation for the company's general meeting.

Samuel Fitzsimmons, secretary of the Movement, 2084 Seventh avenue, said members hope to have a large enough organization to successfully present the demands.

PICKET OFFICES

Leaders of the Movement already have picketed the Harlem and main offices of the company. A mass meeting of Negro policyholders has been scheduled for November 26, at 3 p. m., at the church of the Master, 86 Morningside avenue.

Bias Against Negroes, Jews Laid to Navy Yard

PM - New York, N.Y.

Joint Complaint Asks FEPC to Probe Charges Of Discrimination

2-11-44

By Edmund Scott

A joint complaint by the Citizens' Anti-Discrimination Committee of the Brooklyn Navy Yard, Local 137 of the United Federal Workers of America, CIO, and the Commission on Economic Problems of the American Jewish Congress, asks the FEPC (Fair Employment Practices Committee) to investigate alleged discrimination against Negroes and Jews in the Brooklyn Navy Yard.

The complaint, signed by 15 Negro and Jewish leaders, requests an immediate thorough investigation of employment policies of the Yard and its establishments to determine to what extent such policies violate the President's Fair Employment Practice Order.

Charges

On Negroes the complaint charges that:

¶ There are no Negroes on the Labor Board in either the Brooklyn Navy Yard or the Naval Clothing Supply Depot, although the boards have full control of employment and assignment of all job applicants.

¶ Identification badges of workers in the Navy Yard carry racial markings in addition to photos, differentiating between Negro and white workers. 2-11-44

¶ No Negro women are employed as supervisors in the factories of the Naval Clothing Depot, although many Negro women work there, and some of them are qualified, with required "seniority rights," for such positions.

¶ The alarming degree of fear of intimidation by superiors expressed by workers, in failing to file written complaints of valid employment discrimination, cannot be overemphasized as being mainly responsible for the relatively small number of such complaints received.

¶ Negro workers' "seniority rights" affecting their upgrading, salary increases, and chances of continued employment after the war are ignored.

Dirty Positions

¶ Negro women workers, as a group, are subject to the greatest discrimination in that they are singularly assigned to dirty, undesirable positions, and are asked to resign when requesting transfer or just advancement.

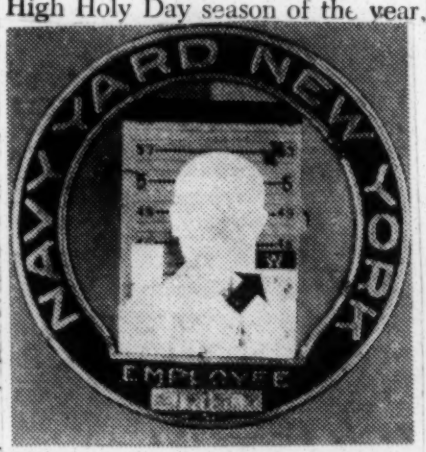
¶ Negro workers are generally excluded from such positions as instructors, supervisors, snappers and leadmen, although many white workers were "green" and trained by Negroes who are still their subordinates.

On Jewish employes the complaint charges that:

¶ Inequitable treatment in upgrading and salary increases.

¶ "Hazing" by co-employes, which the management refused to take cognizance of, or make any effort to arrest. 2-11-44

¶ Immediately following the High Holy Day season of the year, numerous complaints were received that Jewish employes had been suspended several days, without pay, demoted several points and, in some instances, instructions were issued to the master and other supervisors "to report promptly any derelictions and any future delinquencies to form the basis for consideration of discharge."



In place of W (white worker) Negroes' badges are marked C.

Skipped for Promotion

Thomas J. Nolan, president of the United Federal Workers of America, said: 2-11-44

"There are many thousands of Negroes in the Yard and very few of them have been given the opportunity to be promoted to supervisory positions.

"In the shipfitters' shop, out of more than 3000 Negroes, none is in a supervisory position. Where Negroes work with white workers they are continuously skipped for promotion and pay increases.

"Intimidation against workers who have complained to management directly have been brought to the attention of the union. So far, the only response from them had been that the cases are being investigated.

Spokesman for the FEPC in New York said the Brooklyn Navy Yard had been under investigation by the agency since Dec. 17, and in a number of cases it was looking into had received "unsatisfactory explanations" from the Yard.

Discrimination at Fairchild Charged

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. 2-23-44

Failure of the Fairchild Camera & Instrument Corp. to crack down on anti-Semitic and anti-Negro practices has led to conditions which threaten production interruptions, the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers local at the plant charged yesterday.

The union, Local 1217, sent wires to President Roosevelt, the War Production Board and the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee (FEPC) asking intervention.

Trouble flared after an incident last Thursday when a woman worker was said to have insulted Morton Goldstein, a union department chairman, because he was a Jew.

A union demand that the woman be dismissed was refused by management which said that it had no responsibility in a "private matter," James Lustig, UE district organizer, explained. 2-23-44

Workers in the department were at the point where they wanted to stop work in protest over management refusal to act but the union prevented a walkout, Lustig said.

He said the union would take this particular case to arbitration as a grievance which harms labor-management relations and impedes production, while pressing government agencies to act for a general change in all-around policy.

A release issued by Local 1217 charged the company with "lack of interest and cooperation" in eliminating anti-labor developments and instances of race hatred.

Coincidentally, the union has an agreement with Fairchild awaiting War Labor Board approval.

500 Flay Navy Yard Anti-Negro Bias

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

A move to fight discrimination in the Brooklyn Navy Yard was under way today under the joint auspices of the Citizens Anti-Discrimination Committee and the CIO United Federal Workers (UFW).

Approximately 500, most of them Negro, attended a mass meeting Tuesday night in Abyssinian Baptist Church, where they heard Herman Serby, national representative of the UFW, and Edward Lawson, regional director of the Fair Employment Practices Committee.

Serby said that his union, now seeking bargaining rights at the huge Navy Yard, was determined to help Negroes:

1. Get the appointment of Negroes to supervisory posts in the yard. More than 6,000 Negroes are employed there.

2. To get promotions or transfers to better jobs for qualified Negroes.

3. To have Negro women placed as supervisors in the Navy Yard depot which employs 1,200 Negroes among a total of 6,000.

Serby said that while the FEPC was now investigating individual complaints of discrimination at the yard as they were made and had a person assigned there, his union looked forward to a special hearing such as the FEPC conducted on the question of Jim Crow on railroads.

Mr. Lawson told the workers on what grounds complaints could be made and he made clear that the FEPC would investigate discrimination among federal employes. At the end of the evening, according to Serby, a number of complaints were filed. 1-20-44

Lorenzo F. Davis, industrial secretary of the Brooklyn Urban League, pointed out that complaints against conditions in the Navy Yard have been increasing in volume over the past 12 months. The present campaign to improve the situation, he said, includes an appeal to Negro workers to join the United Federal Workers, Local 137.

Mr. Davis urged workers to file complaints in Brooklyn at Local 137, UFWA, headquarters, 241 Sands St., at the Navy Yard gate and, in Manhattan, at the Peoples Committee, Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138th St.

Railway Mail Assn. Loses Appeal on Its Jim Crowism BAR TO MAN

PM New York, N.Y. 3-9-44 Times - New York, N.Y.

ALBANY, Mar. 9.—The Appellate Division today cracked down after the New York branch on the Jim Crow constitution of the Railway Mail Assn. which limits membership to native American Indians and members of the Caucasian race.

In an unanimous decision setting aside a previous ruling by Supreme Court Justice William H. Murray, the court ruled that the Association was a labor union and subject to the Civil Rights Law which prohibits a union from restricting membership for reason of color or creed.

The decision upholds former Industrial Commissioner Frieda Miller, who first informed the Association that its constitution violated the Civil Rights Law.

The Association asked her opinion after the New York branch had applied for membership certificates for Negroes and was refused by the Association. The Association went to court to restrain the Industrial Commissioner and Attorney General from applying the law to the Association.

The Association contended, among other things, that it was a labor union but a membership association not subject to the law which prohibits discrimination, and that despite manpower shortages, many employers still reject applicants because of race, creed, color or color.

The council is composed of complaints received by his organization from July 1, 1943, to March 31, 1944, and virtually all

Fair Employment Practices at 40 discrimination in employment.

80 Per Cent of Complaints Are Made by Negroes 4-28-44

Reports submitted yesterday at the second annual meeting of the New York Metropolitan Council of Fair Employment Practices, East 40th Street disclosed Edward Lawson, director of the New York regional office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices, reported that discrimination on account of race composed 80 per cent of the complaints received by his organization from July 1, 1943, to March 31, 1944, and virtually all

The council is composed of thirty-three social welfare organizations representing all faiths and cooperating to help eliminate

were from Negroes.

Complaints Analyzed

Mr. Lawson said that of 1,094 complaints received in the first three months of 1934, 510 were alleged refusals to hire, 149 were based on discriminatory discharge and ninety-seven were based on refusal to upgrade to better jobs.

Mr. Lawson added, however, that despite continued discrimination in some areas, "Negroes especially are making an increasingly important contribution to the industrial phase of the war effort." He pointed out that, according to figures of the War Manpower Commission, Negroes today comprise about 7.2 per cent of the 15,000,000 persons in the United States employed in war industries as against 3 per cent in 1942.

Marvin M. Jager, secretary of the Metropolitan Council, who reported on behalf of the American Jewish Congress, spoke of "the subtle devices used to keep Jews" from employment. Among these he cited special imprints on application blanks, unjustified rejections in physical examinations, "the discovery of some relative living in a foreign country which may not be even an enemy country, but under Axis occupation," and the use of special mechanical aptitude tests, which are impossible of performance. 4-28-44

"Subtle Pressure" Charged

Charles C. Berkley, director of the State War Council's committee on discrimination in employment, said that members of minority groups over 26 years old were often accused by prospective employers of seeking to evade the draft when applying for work in essential industries. He branded this as a form of "subtle pressure" against minorities.

He reported also that the shift of Negro workers from the metropolitan area to up-State areas where labor shortages existed had been hindered by the failure of up-State communities to provide needed housing facilities.

Lorenso F. Davis, director of industrial relations for the Brooklyn Urban League, said that "Negroes are still being disproportionately and unfairly pigeonholed into common labor and porter jobs regardless of their declared skills."

Skill Ignored

PM-New York, N.Y. 4-28-44

In Job Bias

Discrimination Reported in Use of Abilities

The employment picture at present, as far as minority, racial and religious groups are concerned, is not too dark, but a big job remains to be done, the New York Metropolitan Council on Fair Employment Practice concluded at its second annual report meeting yesterday afternoon.

The Council heard 10 of its 33 member organization tell what they had done and what they planned to do in the field of fair employment practice. Most of the reports these members submitted took up in further detail those of Charles G. Berkley, Director of the State War Council Committee on Discrimination in Employment, and Edward Lawson, Director of the New York Regional Office of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. They are non-members.

Biggest Problem

Berkley said the biggest problem facing minority groups in their fight for equal employment opportunities is that of not only being employed, but being employed commensurate with their abilities and skill. Even if minority workers do get jobs, they often are not upgraded according to their qualifications. And they face additional problems, such as finding housing for themselves and their families.

Of the 15,000,000 people now at work in war production, said Lawson, 7.2 per cent are Negroes. The local transit companies, the cotton textile industry in the South, the rayon fiber and rayon textile industry and the bearing industry "are the major holdouts on the employment of Negro workers at the present time." 4-28-44

In addition, Lawson said, some unions still bar Negroes from war work, 13 by constitutional provision, five by tacit consent of the membership and officers, and one by ritual. Nine permit only segregated auxiliary status to Negroes.

Religious Issue

Charges of discrimination because of religion comprise about 10 per cent of the complaints handled by the FEPC, said Lawson. Most of these come from Jewish workers. For the most part, these complainants charge that they have been barred from employment through discriminatory want adds or specifications given to employment agencies.

Discrimination because of national origin accounted for almost 6 per cent of the complaints received by the Committee in the past nine months.

Among the member organizations of the Council reporting were the Commission on Economic Discrimination of the American Jewish Congress, Brooklyn Urban League, YMCA, Greater New York Federation of Churches, National Conference of Christians and Jews, National Refugee Service, Non-Sectarian Anti-Nazi League, Federation Employment Service, New York League of Women Shoppers, and Vocational Advisory Service.

TRANSIT SHORTAGES

Age-News York, N.Y. 2-5-44

JOSEPH B. EASTMAN, director of the Office of Defense Transportation, this week urged local transit companies to increase the employment of Negroes and women, warning that the manpower situation in the transit industry is becoming tighter and has already reached a critical stage in several labor shortage areas.

"The number of passengers," Mr. Eastman said, "carried every day by our local transit systems has reached an all-time high, and the peak of the load is not yet in sight. Many transit employes are working long hours and part-time operators are helping out during morning and evening rush hours. Despite these and other efforts, there are still idle buses and street cars in many communities and standards of service have had to be lowered because of insufficient personnel to operate or repair the vehicles."

It is ironic, to say the least, for anyone to have to suggest to employers seeking workers that Negroes are qualified workers and can be trained for any jobs to be filled. And yet such would appear to be the case. American industry has always been regarded as being intelligent, and yet on the matter of employment, it has too often been backward and unintelligent. Much of the blame, too, must fall on the various labor unions concerned, particularly in the transportation field, because it has been the unions which have been most effective in barring Negroes. 2-5-44

In New York City, the local transit systems for the most part are controlled by the city itself and Negroes have long been employed as subway motormen and conductors and street car operators. On the buses, there are also Negro drivers and they no longer are regarded as a rarity. The Fifth Avenue Coach Company has yet to employ any Negroes as drivers on its big sight-seeing buses despite the fact that Negroes are driving on other lines.

By and large, New York's transit systems have done alright as far as Negro employment is concerned. There must not be a letup in our quest for jobs, however, because if we remain silent and fail to apply for employment the natural conclusion is that we are not interested in employment.

As far as the other large cities are concerned, The Philadelphia Transit Company still has no Negro drivers despite an FEPC directive to the union to cease discriminatory membership practices; and the Capital Transit System in Washington, D. C., absolutely refuses to even consider employing Negroes. For more than a year, FEPC has been stymied in its effort to gain employment for Negroes in transit companies because of the glaring example right in its own back-yard — the Capital Transit System.

We hope before it is too late that industry and labor will both awaken to the realization that there are Negroes who can fill any job for which they have been trained just as efficiently as whites. In the matter of production and service, the color of one's skin should be the least consideration; rather should skill and aptitude be the important factors.

Until industry and labor wake up, there will continue to exist critical labor shortages and the war will be prolonged just that much longer.

Block Efforts Of Firm To Discharge 35 Negro Women

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga. 7-11-44

NEW YORK—(ANP)—An attempt to discharge 35 Negro women employes of the Pinaud Cosmetic company was blocked last week by the Cosmetic, Soap and Perfumery Workers local 20,646, AFL. Ferdinand C. Smith, chairman of the Negro Labor Victory committee, congratulated Benjamin Press, business manager of the local.

When the women, who were mainly working on the night shift, protested about poor sanitary facilities, lockers and other conveniences that are accorded white women workers, the company sought to discharge all of them. The union backed the Negro women's grievances against the company and insisted that all the women be re-employed who had seniority and discharge the 17 white women who had hired in preparation for the dismissal of the Negro women. 7-16-44

"All workers, whether they be Jew or Gentile, Negro or white, receive the same protection from the union," declared Pross. "As far as the union is concerned, a union member is a union member and will be treated on an equal basis."

The union undertook to place 12 of the colored women who did not have seniority in other shops and other shops and assured them that in the event Pinaud employed additional workers they would be given perferential consideration.

As spokesman for the Negro Labor Victory Committee, Ferdinand C. Smith thanked Pross for the effective manner in which he and his union came to the rescue of the colored women.

DEC 1944

New York

New York FEPC Halts Jim-Crow

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

400 Firms Found Withholding Promotions from Colored Workers; Bell Aircraft Reported Better Than Curtis-Wright

3-4-44

By MICHAEL CARTER

ALBANY, N.Y.—The annual report soon to be issued by the New York State Committee on Discrimination in Employment will show that one major problem has been solved, but another much more complicated problem has taken its place.

Colored industrial workers are finding plenty of work, but their advancement is meeting sharp resistance from employers.

White workers show but little animosity to their presence or advancement, and only 17 unions were accused of discrimination during the year.

Of the 3,500 State firms producing war material, about 400 were investigated. Cases of deliberate withholding of promotions were found in almost every one of them. These cases will be listed in the report.

Results Unsatisfactory

Charles Berkley, executive director of the committee, is not satisfied with the results. "There is plenty of work yet to be done. Almost any employer will hire colored workers, but too few of them are ready to offer promotions. We want advancement to keep pace with increasing skills. We must have full utilization of workers in all departments of the plants."

The interracial committee is not solely concerned with the problems of colored workers, but handles problems of discrimination again white non-Aryans as well.

It is staffed by 14 workers. It has four investigators, two of whom are white, a researcher, and several clerks. Berkley, who heads the committee, is colored.

Because of the nature of his work, Berkley can talk about the problems of all minority races. He can also act. Power vested in him by the State Legislature enables him to bring the law to work against discrimination of employees. Light fines, not to exceed $500, and short sentences up to 90 days in jail can be imposed.

3-4-44

Every Case "Eased"

The committee has never found it necessary to use its punitive authority. But it gets results. The report will state that every case handled was "eased" and favorable results obtained.

Last year the committee operated on a $44,000 budget. Funds are allocated from the State War Council. A larger amount is expected for the coming year.

The committee has little to do with the FEPC. Most members consider the FEPC ineffectual and groping. Chairmen don't resign in befuddled embarrassment.

In the past year they have investigated 435 factories, 106 employment agencies, 6 training schools, and 17 unions. A bigger schedule is planned for the coming fiscal year which begins in March.

Want More Quality

"We are now at the point where we can be more selective. We have to stop employers from limiting colored workers to unskilled categories. We now want quality as well as quantity in employment," Berkley said.

Last year the committee did but little work on housing. Excellent jobs were available in Schenectady, for example, but no housing for colored workers was available.

3-4-44

The housing shortage was so acute that there were no rooms for whites. Colored workers were welcome to take what was left.

Most up-State towns had no large pre-war colored populations. In-migrants were wedged into the already crowded colored neighborhoods, which, though not permitted to expand, were forced to grow within themselves.

Japs Cared for

The committee plans to work on this problem during the year. If it can ease the housing shortage, it can find more opportunities for skilled labor.

Several hundred Japanese have been released from West Coast concentration camps and are being imported here for work. White residents in many places have made housing them a community project.

Many have been invited to share homes with leading citizens in various communities. Local churches underwrite this work. Oddly enough, no such interest was shown in housing colored workers.

However, housing will remain one of the subordinate interests. Attention will also be focused on upgrading and educating the colored communities to bring in their problems.

3-7-44

Bell Co. Promotions

Berkley says that the committee has barely scratched the surface of upgrading. Few companies will willingly and automatically advance colored workers. One notable exception is the Bell Air Craft Company.

Prior to the war, few colored workers were hired. In recent months the plant has included colored workers in every department and advances them without undue hesitancy.

At Bell's there are a colored chemist, a physicist, several professional and technical workers and three personnel supervisors.

Advancement Limited

Curtis-Wright, on the other hand, employs thousands of colored workers but limits their advancement, relegates them to certain departments. Berkley feels that the Bell-Aircraft type of employment is preferable.

Berkley explains that the Curtis-Wright practice is inherently dangerous, as it lowers morale and community spirit.

"When a single plant in a town employs most of the colored people, competition between them is increased. They feel they can't work anywhere else and sooner or later they stop trying to get jobs in other plants.

"Such keen industrial competition is bound to dampen community spirit. I prefer to see relatively few workers employed, but dispersed in all branches, than an aggregation that is limited to certain departments."

3-4-44

New Discrimination

The report will reveal new types of discrimination. No plant is specified by name in the report, but it is common knowledge that Sperry Gyroscope has devised a type of discrimination that is new to New York.

Sperry is operating a sort of jim-crow plant in Long Island. There are several Sperry plants in Manhattan and Brooklyn, and one recently built about 20 miles out on Long Island.

Sperry opened and closed a Harlem employment office where it tried to recruit colored workers for employment in its distant plant. It was difficult to get either white or colored workers to make the four-hour trek to Long Island, when other jobs were available in the city.

Won't Report Grievances

One of the problems which the committee did not foresee, and which is difficult to ease, is the reluctance of colored workers to report grievances. Most of the worker-inspired investigations are the result of complaints filed by Jews and other minorities.

Colored workers state that the office, in the heart of New York City's administrative center, is too difficult to get to. Three subway lines converge within five blocks of 80 Centre Street, where the committee is housed.

Berkley complains that colored workers seem to be too easily satisfied.

As a result, the committee begins most investigations on its own initiative. "Any change in a company's plans, plant or hiring methods will stimulate our interest. We are like building inspectors. Our experience has taught us what to look for and we make regular searches."

The report indicates deep Southern influences in New York's industry. Employers will complain that they do not have facilities for colored workers, who have a marked odor that makes others ill.

3-4-44

Other employers, conscious that there is some vague relation between the employment of colored people and the war material they make, welcome the committee. A booklet on the integration of colored workers is given to all new employers. Many other employers request the booklet.

Half Co-operate

The report indicates that fully half of the companies indicate a readiness to co-operate. Many complain that they don't know how to hire a colored skilled worker, but would really like to try.

The only hate strike on New York's labor record is documented in the report. It lasted exactly 24 hours. Berkley eased the situation. To him a situation is never healed, it is erased."

Within 24 hours every employee on strike was back at work. The colored man whose promotion had excited the white workers was accepted. The CIO union involved asked for the resignation of the white stewards who were responsible.

Zoot Suits and Conks

Like all other employment specialists, Berkley inveighs against conspicuous clothes affected by some colored people. This is not touched in the report, but Berkley says, "The fancy waved hair and peculiar top knot have cost more colored boys jobs than anything else except baggy pants."

Harlem takes credit for new and revolutionary styles in men's attire. One finds the highest expression of the zoot suit and the most impressive examples of the men's hair press and marcel.

Berkley feels that these unnatural devices attract too much attention to the wearer. Both employer and employees laugh at him, and his chances of promotion, even if hired, are lessened.

He has also found that many colored workers are afraid to work in close contact with whites. His office encountered the case of a colored girl who resigned from a good job because she did not like being the only colored person in the plant.

3-4-44

The worst part of the struggle is just beginning, Berkley feels. The committee will soon work almost exclusively on promotions and integration. But he is sure that it can "ease" this problem also.

Cafe Jim Crow Hiring Nears 'Show-Down'

Amsterdam News

New York, N.Y.

3-11-44

An open anti-Negro labor policy is rampant throughout New York's thousands of cafeteries and restaurants, it is reported this week by the Cafeteria Union in which 800 Negro employees hold membership. So obvious is the discriminatory policy that any Negro worker agitating for a job above dishwashing, cooking or porter work, known strictly as "Negro jobs", is assigned cleaning toilets and hauling out garbage, regardless of his experience.

A showdown is expected this week between the Cafeteria Union and the Consumer's Co-operative as a result of work stoppage lasting one hour last Wednesday at a Spruce Street Cafeteria. The incident brought to light the following facts:

Fails To Co-Operate

That the Consumer's Co-operative, which manages metropolitan cafeterias, several months ago agreed to promote Negro employees along with other racial groups to front jobs. Positions such as managers, cashiers and stewards, hitherto limited to white employees only, would be given Negroes.

3-11-44

The union maintains that the Consumer's Co-operative, after consulting with the War Manpower Commission, not only failed to live up to promoting Negroes as agreed, but also refused to meet with union representatives.

Mary Lang and Eula Feenster, directly responsible for anti-Negro policy refuse to explain their methods of intimidation and hiring inexperienced white workers outside the union and over Negro workers, some with 20 years experience in the food handling industry." This is the "finding" of Joseph Fox, Secretary-Treasurer of the Cafeteria Union, 1105 B'way.—H

Granger, Goldstein Defend Chicago; Quit Dewey Commission

4-22-44

NEW YORK (ANP)—On the heels of resignations of six members of Gov. Dewey's State Committee on Discrimination in Employment, two other members turned in their notices of severance last week. The latest two are Lester B. Granger, of the National Urban League and Dr. Sidney E. Goldstein (white) of the Free Synagogue.

Still remaining on the 23-man committee are two colored citizens —Dr. C. B. Powell, members of the Dewey repudiated the report of the state zoning commission, and Rev. group on racial employment dis- George H. Sims, pastor of Union criminations, and announced he Baptist church, West 145th street. would set up a new committee was Resignations of these two, plus Hulan Jack, assemblyman, who re- the remaining white persons on the fused to permit his name to be used. committee, remain in doubt. Dr. No further new appointees have Powell was reluctant to discuss the been named publicly. situation, but the insistence of other Said Dr. Channing Tobias, one of the first to resign from the old committee, "The people of this country are genuinely disgusted with Gov. Dewey's sellout of the anti-bias bill in the interest of securing southern delegates for a nomination that he may force on the physician to hand in his resignation, also.

4-22-44

The dissension within the com-

Brooklyn Firm Employs 350 But Keeps Them Out of Sight

By RICHARD DIER

The Rand Dry Cleaners Co., which operates numerous stores throughout cosmopolitan New York and maintains its own cleaning factory establishment at 4201 Avenue H, Brooklyn, employs 350 colored men and women out of a total of 450 persons.

In an exclusive interview with Mr. Dorfman, personnel manager of this large organization, the AFRO learned that colored help is utilized in every type of job except in stores which deal directly with and have close contact with the public.

"We have colored truck drivers and also a colored factory foreman," Mr. Dorfman explained. "There are spotters, packers, and girls who work as clerks in our offices.

Employment Not New

"Employing them is nothing new to us. We had colored employees on the payroll since we came into existence twelve years ago. However, we never put them to work behind the counter in our various stores in the city.

"We use only two people in the store, a store manager and an assistant. All or our stores are located in white neighborhoods. I doubt whether the public is ready to accept colored people in Rand's. If we were located in some colored sections of the city, I can readily see our having colored girls waiting on them, like in the Spotless Store on 125th Street in Harlem. Unfortunately, we're not in the same situation.

"Front" Jobs Withheld

"There's another angle involved, too. These store jobs are responsible positions. Colored people aren't ready yet to carry such responsibility, especially in a white district where they would have to be careful how they speak to customers.

"I had a few colored girls who originally applied for store jobs here. I gave them clerical jobs instead, and they seem to be very happy at them. In the past six months, I haven't had one application from a colored person for a store job.

"My opinion is that they are more satisfied doing factory work where there are no responsibilities like you would find working in a store where hundreds of people come in during the day and you have to talk with them."

Good Workers

Mr. Dorfman told the AFRO that Rand's is satisfied with its colored employees. Both men and women are good workers. The only trouble, he explained, is their taking off of occasional days from the job.

"You can't help that," he continued. "We are living in peculiar times and you've got to make allowances for them."

At this point, the AFRO asked Mr. Dorfman whether any of the colored truck drivers had any direct contact with their customers.

"Our colored drivers deliver to our stores only," he replied, "and do not speak with our customers."

Mr. Dorfman put special emphasis on this last statement.

He pointed out that continuous music is furnished the employees in the factory right through the working hours. He believes this puts them in a good mood, and they work better and are happier doing their work.

The company has a closed shop and a CIO contract which, according to Mr. Dorfman, guarantees all employees their jobs after the war on a seniority basis.

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

Rand Dry Cleaners deserves some credit in employing so many colored people. However, the company should be ashamed of its discriminatory policy of not allowing them to work at their stores.

Mr. Dorfman seems to think the public is not yet ready for it. In that he's wrong, since Lord & Taylor's, one of the most fashionable department stores in New York, uses three colored salesgirls.

His opinion that colored people not being able to carry the responsibilities involved in holding down such jobs is downright jim crow. It's a feeble excuse ready to be seized upon by all those wanting to discriminate and having no explanation for it.

His own drawn conclusions that colored people are more satisfied doing menial rather than more responsible work is false. That's an argument the white South always advances in holding down the colored worker to low-paying, inferior jobs.

The answer to this statement that he hasn't received an application within the past six months from a colored person for a store job is obvious. How can people apply for a job which doesn't exist for them?

Randolph Pickets Metropolitan Life

NEW YORK.—(WDL)— The March On Washington Movement is beginning an extensive campaign to force the Metropolitan Life Insurance company to employ Negroes by picketing all its offices.

A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, and chairman of the March on Washington movement, led an initial picket line around the Harlem offices of the company. He carried a placard reading, "Metro, Metro, Stop Your Jim Crow."

He said he had received a letter from Charles G. Taylor, vice-president of the Metropolitan, saying the company had more Negro policy holders than any other insurance firm, but employed fewer than 200 Negroes on its national payroll of 40,000.

Powers Denies Discrimination; Says He's Only Seeking Beauty

Any colored girl who is fortunate enough to possess natural beauty, provided she is not a professional in the entertainment field, can compete for the title of "Miss Subways" and have her picture posted in all the subway trains in New York for a full month.

This statement was given to the AFRO this week by John Robert Powers, director of the world-famous model agency, and conductor of the monthly contests to find a "Miss Subways," after the AFRO had pointed out to him that many people were accusing him of harboring prejudices against the colored race because no colored girl had as yet received this honor in all the years of the contest's existence.

Denies Prejudice

In an exclusive interview at the model agency, at 247 Park Avenue, the tall, slightly grayish Mr. Powers revealed to the AFRO that race, religion, or creed had nothing whatever to do with his selections.

"If I find the right girl, I'll select her even if she is an Eskimo, provided she is beautiful," he explained. "That is important. She must not be Hollywoodish beautiful or even glamorous, but she must have a certain type of natural beauty — like cabbage or tomatoes that grow in Hicksville. It isn't easy to explain.

"Lena Horne is the perfect type, with her eyes, teeth, hair, and photogenic face. If I only could find a colored girl like her. However, I don't want a professional type of girl, like a dancer or singer. She could even be a school teacher, a defense worker, or some girl doing some vital war work.

"This is because girls who are not beautiful may look at 'Miss Subways' and say, 'She is beautiful, but what is she doing to help win the war?'"

Jews, Catholics Complain

Mr. Powers said that he has been asked by Jews, Catholics, Irish, Scandinavians, and peoples of all denominations why he does not select one of them for this honor, and his answer to them has always been, that he'll be glad to — provided she is beautiful.

"It'd be glad to have a colored 'Miss Subways'," he continued, "if she were the right girl. Countless numbers have already applied to me, but none were acceptable. It's a very hard job to find the girl you want. Why, only last Saturday, there were 1200 girls here trying out for 'Miss Subways' and not one qualified.

"Even in my model agency where girls come in all day long, as you can see, it sometimes takes two or three months before I find the right type."

At this point, the AFRO interrupted him to ask whether he employed any colored girls in his model agency, and he replied:

"No, we're really not hiring many new girls these days."

Mr. Powers seemed to pass this query over very quickly.

"The trouble with new girls," he continued, "is that they're afraid of the camera. It takes them a little while to break in, but they learn eventually."

MISS ERMA STUBBS

of New York, who would give any Powers's model a stiff competition.

know of any suitable girls, please send them up here."

His parting words as the AFRO left were:

"If you find one, will you send her up?"

Personal Observations

Mr. Powers will find it a very difficult job convincing the colored people that he is still searching for a special type of beauty.

As long as it is left solely up to Mr. Powers to make the selection, he can continue his imaginary search for the next hundred years.

Ratio Favored Colored

The AFRO explained to Mr. Powers that there are many beautiful colored girls in New York, and since 10 per cent of the city's population was colored, it was conceivable that even on a quota basis — a colored girl would win the "Miss Subways" award on an average of once every ten months.

"Again, I've got to say that it isn't a simple matter," he answered. "I can assure you that I don't discriminate, and if you

A Chance to Destroy Jimcro

The People's Voice - N.Y. N.Y. 12-2-44

An Analysis of the Proposals of the State Commission Against Discrimination

By DOXEY A. WILKERSON

IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT to overestimate the profound significance of the legislative proposals advanced for public discussion by the New York State Commission Against Discrimination. These two bills are almost revolutionary in their implications. If enacted into law, they would strike a mortal blow at jimcrowism in New York, and would hasten the process of uprooting racial discrimination from American society as a whole. There are several weaknesses and at least one fundamental defect in the proposed anti-discrimination measures. Their correction should be insisted upon at the public hearings now being held. *But in our concern over this or that defect of the bills, let us not lose sight of the main task before us: to mobilize overwhelming public support to guarantee their passage at the 1945 session of the State Legislature which opens on January 3.*

Act now to guarantee their jobs after the war!

The Proposals

In brief, the legislative proposals of the Governor's Commission (outlined in last week's *PV*, and summarized on page 3 of this issue) are:

- to create a State Commission Against Discrimination with power to eliminate and prevent racial or religious discrimination in employment on the part of employers, labor organizations, employment agencies or other persons. The bill states: *"The opportunity to obtain employment without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin is hereby recognized as and declared to be a civil right."* (The procedures and powers of the Commission in enforcing this right are set forth in detail.);
- to authorize and instruct the State Attorney General to bring necessary civil or criminal action to enforce the state's anti-discrimination laws, or to enforce the Commission's orders based upon those laws, or to prosecute violators.

What This Means

Passage and full enforcement of these two bills would create, for the first time in the history of the United States, a situation where any man or woman—Negro, Jew, foreign-born or other—could call upon the power of the state to enforce his right to employment in most any job for which he is qualified. The federal FEPC and certain state laws now offer important safeguards against employment discrimination in war industries, but the Commission's proposals are more basic and comprehensive. They provide more effective enforcement machinery. With minor exceptions, they throw open the whole field of employment—banks, insurance companies, public utilities, factories, stores, foreign and domestic trade, etc.—to all workers, regardless of "race, creed, color or national origin." And they are permanent measures, extending on into the post-war period.

By thus striking at the economic roots of jimcroism, these measures would undermine the whole rotten system of racial and religious discrimination which permeates our society. Moreover, if they are adopted in the nation's leading center of commerce and finance, they will give strong impetus to the enactment of similar measures in other parts of the country.

Fundamental Defect

The most serious weakness of the proposed anti-discrimination measures is that they permit court review of the Commission's *findings of fact*. This is directly contrary to established procedures in administrative law, and would nullify the effectiveness of the entire anti-discrimination program.

An employer or other agency found guilty of discrimination is entitled to court review of the legality of the order or penalty imposed upon him. But it would be fatal to throw open to court review the Commission's *findings of fact*. The enforcement machinery would then become entangled in such an endless mesh of legalistic red-tape that the excellent laws proposed simply could not be made to work.

The proposed anti-discrimination bills must be amended to restrict court review to questions of law, leaving the Commission as the sole and final authority as to the facts in a given case. There can be no compromise on this issue. It is fundamental to the effectiveness of the entire program.

Other Changes Needed

There are several other important respects in which the legislative proposals for a State Commission Against Discrimination need to be strengthened:

- the Commission's authority to eliminate or prevent discrimination *in employment* should be extended to include discrimination in *housing, public schools, health, social welfare agencies,* and *recreation.* This broader jurisdiction (provided for in the original Wicks bills which were killed by Governor Dewey last spring) is needed if citizens are to gain full benefit from the elimination of job discrimination here attempted;
- it may be desirable to provide *more severe penalties* for willful resistance to or obstruction of the Commission's work than those which conviction of "misdemeanor" entail. However, in the long run, vigor and certainty in enforcing the law is more effective than severe penalties in assuring compliance;
- a prohibition against discrimination because of *"ancestry"* (as in the Wicks bills) should be added to those against discrimination "because of race, creed, color or national origin";
- the bills should explicitly prohibit the segregation, isolation or *separation* of workers because of race, creed, color, etc. This prohibition should not be left to "interpretation," but should be written into the bills.

Mass Pressure Required

There will be powerful, *largely hidden,* opposition to passage of these anti-discrimination measures by the State Legislature. This opposition *can* be defeated, especially during this period—*but only through overwhelming mass pressure from Negro, labor, civic, fraternal, religious and other progressive organizations of the people.* Next week's hearings in New York City should be swamped by citizens clamoring for necessary modifications and adoption of these bills. Then, once the bills are introduced, even greater public pressure must be directed toward the Legislature.

The Commission's anti-discrimination proposals call for a fundamental step forward toward our historic goal of full democratic citizenship. This is the kind of program we want to greet our soldiers when they return home from the fighting abroad. Let us begin to fight here and now, to enact these bills into law!

Dewey's Job-Discrimination Committee Submits Plan

Houston, Tex. — The Informer (Texas) 12-2-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) —Political observers in Washington are expressing amazement that the New York State Commission Against Discrimination appointed by Gov. Thomas E. Dewey to study the problem of discrimination in the state and report back to him, did not bring in its report prior to the presidential election. The commission's plan was published exactly a week after the election.

The proposal differs from the Wicks Bill which Dewey was accused of sabotaging in that it limits proposed jurisdiction of the state FEPC to employment alone. The Wicks Bill covered other fields, including housing, education, health, recreation and social welfare.

The purpose of the bills now proposed is contained in the sentence: "The opportunity to obtain employment without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin is hereby recognized and declared to be a civil right."

Public hearings on the bills started in Albany on Nov. 27, and will last to December 6. After the hearings, the bills in final form will be submitted to the legislature. They propose:

1. Creation of a new Discrimination division as an executive department under the Governor.

2. Broadening the powers of the State Attorney General so he can supersede a local district attorney in discrimination cases and enforce orders of the proposed State Commission.

3. A 5-man commission, at $10,000 a year each, appointed for five year terms by the Governor with the advice and consent of the state Senate, as full time employees.

The commission will have power to:

1. Investigate complaints of discrimination in employment.

2. Create community advisory councils to study discrimination problems in "all or specific fields of human relationships."

3. Initiate and publish research which tends "to promote goodwill and minimize or eliminate discrimination."

Unlawful or unfair employment practices are defined as:

1. Refusal of an employer to hire any person for a job because of race, creed, color or national origin; or refusal to treat him fairly in terms of pay or conditions of employment.

2. Discrimination by a labor union through exclusion of individuals from union membership for discriminatory reasons as well as barring discrimination by a union against an employer who fulfills the provisions of the proposed new law.

3. Circulation of any job-application form which "directly or indirectly" inquires into an applicant's race, religion or national origin "unless based upon a bona fide occupational qualification."

Social clubs, charitable, educational and religious association organized for private profit," and farmers employing not more than three persons are not considered employers under the act.

Survey Shows How Seniority Layoffs Would Hit Negroes

Strict application of seniority rules in the event of a layoff at the Sperry Gyroscope Co. would cut deep into Negro personnel, and in one occupation would mean their complete elimination, according to a survey just made by the National Negro Congress.

The Sperry Co., one of the biggest industrial plants in the New York area, hired no Negroes before the war. Jimcrow broke down under the impact of the manpower crisis and pressure from the CIO United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, bargaining agent at the shop, and other groups fighting discrimination. Recently R. E. Gillmor, Sperry president, announced that the company would never reintroduce its "pure white" policy of the past.

The National Negro Congress, checking to determine the effect on Negro workers if seniority rules—last hired, first hired—were rigidly applied when war contracts are cancelled, studied employment statistics at Sperry as the first of several plants, according to Miss Thelma Dale, acting Congress secretary.

NASSAU PLANT STUDIED

Sperry figures were garnered from the firm's Nassau plant, which employs a higher percentage of Negroes than four other buildings. Seniority there is plantwide and based on occupation. It is cumulative, so that neither upgrading nor absence of upgrading affect seniority status. Like all other Sperry plants, Nassau operates under a contract with UE Local 450.

Based on company records as of Nov. 8, the Congress discovered that a 50 per cent layoff of inspectors, if seniority were rigidly applied, would wipe out every Negro in the department. Among assemblers, a 50 per cent layoff would leave exactly one. A similar cut among filers and burrers would leave nine Negroes.

Here are the exact figures:

Filers and burrers. — Total employes, 549, of which 36, or 7 percent, are Negroes. In case of a 50-percent layoff, with an unmodified application of the seniority rules, 275 workers would remain at this occupation, the number of Negroes dropping to nine, or falling from 7 to 3 per cent.

Assemblers. — Total employes, 1,677, of which 37, or 3 percent, are Negroes. A 50 percent layoff would reduce the total number to 839 and reduce the number of Negroes to one, or one-tenth of one percent.

Inspectors.—Total employes, 973, of which 23, or 2 percent, are Negroes. A 50-percent layoff would reduce the total to 487, completely eliminating Negroes.

The National Negro Congress concludes, on the basis of its test surveys in this and other plants, that while seniority adjustments are not necessary everywhere, the unmodified application of seniority rules would, in many places, "greatly reduce the proportion of Negro employees, thus tending to freeze prewar discrimination into postwar industry."

North Carolina

ham Tobacco Workers

11-25-44

arge Discrimination

Pittsburgh Courier—B

HAM, N. C.—(ANP)—Con- that the AFL has entered secret agreement with the and Myers Tobacco com- maintain a system of pay- em less than whites, Negro of the factory here Wed- made an appeal to the CIO t an organizing drive de- to replace the AFL as bar- agent.

s pointed out that Negro tters in the plant, regard- their years of experience lity, are never classed as workers, while white steam- often having less experience dered skilled workmen and erefore able to draw a rate of pay.

company refuses to class workers in order to keep ing them higher wages, n charged, while white classed as skilled, are do- y jobs of a less respon- ture.

killed workers are classi- key workers" by the com- avoid paying them the ges paid whites doing the nd of work under the rat- "skilled worker," it was

ompany, apparently with sanction of the AFL he men revealed, has in- d a system which classes o workers as "general la- no matter how much skill nsibility their occupations

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Courier 12-24, 1944

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11-24-44

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ompany refuses to class as skilled workers in or- keep from paying them ages, spokesmen charged, while white workers classed as skilled are doing many jobs of a less responsible nature.

Negro skilled workers are classified as "key workers" by the company to avoid paying them the same wages paid whites doing the same kind of work under the rating of "skilled worker," it was disclosed.

11-24-44

Classed As General Workers

The company, apparently with complete sanction of the AFL union, the men revealed, has inaugurated a system which classes all Negro workers as "general laborers," no matter how much skill or responsibility, their occupations call for. This is done, the workermen assert, to avoid salary parity.

A concrete example of what was termed a "vicious system" was cited in the case of Negro firemen, who are simply classed as "firemen," while white men doing the same work are classed as "firemen operators" a rating which means a 20 per cent salary increase. No Negroes, no matter their seniority, are ever classed as "fire operators," the spokesmen said.

It was also contended that the beginners salary for Negro workers has been arbitrarily set at 45c an hour, while that of white beginners is set at 55c. The lowest paid white experienced worker receives 74c an hour, while the lowest rate given eNgro experienced workers is 62c. 11-24-44

Negro workers, it was asserted, are also irritated over the fact that they are not permitted to use the Central Labor hall, which was erected out of money paid by all labor organizations, most of whose memberships are bi-racial.

Appeals of Negro workers to the ALF union, which has bargaining rights, to remedy the cause of their grievances have met with rebuff, a committee of the workers declared.

I WRITE AS I SEE

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.

BY ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET

7-22-44

THE LUCKY WINNER

I have interrupted a sorely needed period of rest-activities in New York State in order to learn at hand what the real facts are regarding the PTC sit-ion. I give my readers the benefit of my opinion re-ding the findings, but by the time you read this I shall nce more far away from Philadelphia. The years have ht me that crises always are among us, but should a er die because he attempts to stretch his physical en-s further than nature permits, little of him remains brief epitaph.

So let no one, Mr. Rhodes included, suggest that the PTC struggle have dropped the issue. It is easy to find fault or to criticize. Raising money, finding workers, and rallying the people are a bit more difficult to do. The PTC fight will be won, and it will not be dropped until it is won.

A COMPLICATED ISSUE

7-22-44

Before I left Philadelphia for the summer, I conferred with James J. Fitzsimon, regional organizer of the Transport Work- Union, CIO, in the Philadelphia area. He confirmed my s that the issue had complications which still require icate handling, but he likewise assured me that in a tter of weeks Negroes in Philadelphia would be operat- trolleys.

I want to correct a false impression which Mr. Rhodes y have created. In a recent article he implied that Mr. gsimon was overtime with a prediction that a definite nge in the Philadelphia situation would take place in ty days. May I remind Mr. Rhodes and readers of the lladelphia TRIBUNE that this prediction was made at UPAC Mass Rally held at Town Hall, April 30, and t PTC's no-discrimination statement was issued July 1, ctly two months after Mr. Fitzsimon's utterance?

But what does this PTC statement mean? Is the Phila-phia TRIBUNE correct in its inference that despite the tement, there is no change in the PTC situation? My wer is that the TRIBUNE is incorrect. It is my under-nding and my firm belief that before the summer pass-we shall see the first Negroes in Philadelphia operating lleys as motormen and conductors. This is a definite nge.

7-22-44

The Philadelphia TRIBUNE is correct, I regret to state, ts belief that PTC does not intend to go very far with its n-discrimination policy. The point is, however, that if ad not been for the activities of the NAACP Action Com-tee and the CIO, this opening wedge would not now be erging.

ANTED: A BASIC PLAN

What more needs to be done? We must continue the fight, of course. And continue we will. We intend, and I know that the CIO intends that the issue shall be settled on a much broader basis than this narrow concession which PTC reluctantly has been forced to make. We probably are in for another year of hard fighting—but the opening wedge represents an advantage we did not have one year ago.

And now a final observation. More and more it becomes clear to me that it will not be possible for us Negroes to win our freedom in America merely by waging separate struggles for our rights here and there. On a thousand varying fronts, the struggle marches on, but for the most part each front represents an isolated battle devoid of a consciously devised strategic plan of battle for the whole Negro people of America. Indeed, we need to involve millions of the other group within such a strategic plan.

7-22-44

It is largely for this reason that conditions vary so, even in the North. Thus, in New York City this particular battle has been fought and won long ago, and everyone has forgotten all about it. It is too bad that in Philadelphia and other northern centers the same battle has to be fought all over again. What is needed is a plan of battle in which struggles of the Negro people in various parts of the country will be coordinated in one huge master plan, the objective being not victory alone in the particular struggle, but the attainment of the American Goal, First Class Citizenship For All Americans. I will dwell on this matter more at length, later, when I shall discuss an educational and political program for Americans in order to achieve the American Goal.

As for PTC—rest assured that we who undertook this fight do not intend to lay down our weapons until at least the immediate objectives are attained, namely, Negro trolley conductors and motormen, bus drivers, cashiers, and all the rest.

Facts and Fancies

Tribune

BY EUSTACE GAY

Philadelphia, Pa.

Given A Stone

7-22-44

The world's greatest teacher, about 2000 years ago, asked a question of a group of His followers, which went something like this: "Which of you, if your son asks for bread will give him a stone, or if he asks for fish will give him a scorpion?" The current answer for that question in Philadelphia today would be the PTC and the Transport Workers Union, as pointed out in last week's edition of this newspaper, the victory, if it may be so termed, is a hollow one. We asked for bread; we got a stone.

It is now up to the NAACP and the UPAC to renew their crusade for the employment of colored men and women on equal terms by the PTC, and to put pressure on the TWU-CIO not to welsh on their promises to have colored men and women integrated on an equal basis with all other racial groups in the local transit system.

It will not do for the TWU-CIO to plead that there was no written promise—if none exists. The fact is that at the time of the controversy the TWU-CIO left no doubt in the minds of the colored public that the CIO's avowed policy of "no discrimination" because of color, race, creed or national origin would be carried out IF IT WON THE ELECTION to become the bargaining agent of a majority of the PTC employes.

7-22-44

Because of this generally accepted CIO policy, colored employes of the PTC helped the TWU-CIO to secure a majority of the votes cast. They did so believing that the TWU-CIO would put into **effect** in Philadelphia the "no discrimination" policy of Sidney Hillman, R. J. Thomas and other nationally known CIO leaders.

I am informed that the PTC authorities expected that the TWU-CIO would insist on the inclusion in the new contract of a "no discrimination" clause to offset the clause which formerly existed in the PTC-PRT Employes Union contract and which was interpreted as "freezing" colored employes in certain types of employment on the PTC system, and forbidding the hiring of colored men and women for any other type of work. My informant tells me that Dr. A. A. Mitten was the most surprised man in the world when the suggested agreement between the PTC and the TWU-CIO was silent on this topic.

7-22-44

During the fight between the PRT-Employes Union and the TWU-CIO as to which would be the bargaining agent, I was approached, in my capacity as editor of this newspaper, and asked not to overemphasize the CIO's policy of "no discrimination," because it might act to prevent the TWU-CIO from gaining the victory. We were also told, when we tried to secure advertisement appearing in the dailies asking employes to vote for the TWU-CIO, that the TWU people felt it would prejudice their case, and there was really nothing to worry about, since the CIO's policy was well known.

Months after the victory has been won by the TWU-CIO, the PTC with much fanfare announced its willingness (1) to upgrade present MALE employes who make applica-

nouncement makes it crystal
ting to have its policy must clear that the employment of
e that their work colored MEN only is an emerg-
together in vain—ency measure, adopted because
the PTC's discrim- of a directive from the Federal
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U-CIO has not tment in the Philadelphia area.
" for the employ- The NAACP and the UPAC
olored workers on must continue their fight on
tem, whether male the PTC.
nd (3) the PTC an-
tion; and (2) to accept such of manpower— WOMEN— is been attempting
MALE applicants as are refer- ignored, insofar as colored wo- PTC change its
red by the United States Em- men are concerned. The PTC now realize tha
ployment Service, which has makes it clear that the change has been altoget
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phia of going along with the ernment agency, and the TWU inatory policy is
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refusing to refer colored work- ing to accept this as final. "gone to bat" fo
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In this way the largest source the other groups which have the PTC system,
or female; and (3

Racism in Philadelphia

The Nation - New York, N.Y.

THE PHILADELPHIA rapid-transit strike is in some ways the most disturbing incident in American life for a long time. Here was a strike which, although it was strongly opposed by the union leaders, apparently was supported by a large majority of all the workers involved, which was solely a protest against the upgrading of a handful of Negroes to positions as motormen. The workers stayed out almost a week in spite of the fact that the strike did great damage to the production of war material in the tremendously important Philadelphia area. They only returned to work after they had been ordered to do so by the army with the threat that they would be dismissed from their jobs, would be refused the certificates necessary to get other jobs, and, in the case of those eligible for military service, would have their deferment canceled and would be called up at once.

8-14-44

This is a disheartening picture of race prejudice without a single mitigating factor. The scene was not in the South, where race relations have been a cause of constant friction for many generations, but in the North, in a city where Negroes constitute an insignificant minority of the total population. The episode did not even have the excuse—if it can be called an excuse—of the race riots in Detroit, which were aggravated by bad housing, overcrowding in stores and other public meeting places, and the sudden influx into the city of large masses of both whites and Negroes from the Deep South. These were permanent employees of the Philadelphia rapid-transit system. Not many of them can have been seriously inconvenienced by war conditions, and only a few Negroes were involved. It is no defense to say that enemy agents must have been at work among the strikers, or that an independent union, defeated a few months ago in an election by a union affiliated with the CIO, was trying to stir up trouble. It ought not to be possible for either enemy agents or disgruntled union officials to achieve a result so easily, at such a tremendous cost to the public welfare.

8-14-44

The truth is that the Philadelphia strike was a symptom of a deep-rooted, dangerous and long-neglected disease of our national life. Almost no one in America has taken any trouble, in our whole past history, to fight the pernicious doctrine of racism. In the South, where it has been mainly directed against the Negroes, nearly all the "best people" have preached and practised it—"best" in the sense of having education, money and responsible positions of leadership in the community. In the North, the same false and vicious doctrine has been mainly directed against the Jews, and here again the community leaders have almost unanimously participated in these odious doctrines, instead of fighting them. Our schools have done little to counteract the prevailing current; indeed, in most cities, textbooks which "harped too much" on the evils of racism would not be permitted to get into the public school system at all..

You had an excellent example of the prevailing intellectual and moral climate a few weeks ago when the United States Army refused to permit the circulation of a pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind," telling what every anthropologist knows to be true, that there are no important differences in the intellectual and spiritual capacities of races. The army officers who made this decision were of course completely ignorant of the scientific facts on this matter—just as ignorant as most United States senators from the South, or as a Philadelphia transit worker. They were yielding to a community prejudice, a prejudice without any basis that intelligent and honest people should accept.

8-14-44

We should have begun to fight this evil thing many decades ago; but the fact that we did not is no excuse for postponing the effort still farther. A half-dozen American cities are now trembling on the brink of a repetition of the Detroit race riots of a year ago. Feeling among the Negroes about the treatment of colored troops in the army, and about other types of discrimination, is close to the boiling point. We shall be lucky indeed if we get through the next few months without a major disaster. Yet neither of the two chief political parties is really concerned about this problem. The Republicans were glad to make political capital in their platform out of Negro discontent, but the Republicans in Congress have a sorry record in regard to racism. The Democrats uttered a few meaningless words on the subject, endeavoring to placate the Negro haters of the South, who certainly did not need to be placated. Although good work is being done here and there on a limited and local scale to promote interracial understanding, the problem as a whole is rushing to a major climax. Unless we can master it, it will continue to offer the gravest threat to our democracy.

Insists On Anti-Negro Clause In CIO Contract

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.

8-5-44

Philadelphia Transit Demands Clause In Contract

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., (ANP) —The Philadelphia Transportation Company, which not only signed a contract with its company union—the PRT Employees Union—prohibiting the hiring of colored men and women as motormen, conductors, bus drivers and cashiers, but also used that clause in the contract as the only reason why colored people were not so hired, has refused to sign a contract with the new bargaining agent, Local No. 234 Transport Workers Union, CIO, unless such a clause is inserted in the new contract.

This information was given last week by a spokesman for James J. Fitzsimons, president of the TWU Local. "We offered a non-discrimination clause in the new contract," the spokesman said, "but the company resisted it."

SUPPORTED FEPC 8-5-44

At the same time, the spokesman said that at a meeting of all carbarns and departments of TWU, held at the Broadwood Hotel, the members of the joint executive committee voted 119 to 1 to give their full support to the government order against discrimination in hiring by PTC.

Meanwhile, reliable sources had reported that posters have appeared in several car barns calling upon white workers to go on strike rather than help train colored men to operate trolleys.

35c-1944

Phila. Negro Leaders Rap Red-Baiting in Job Drive

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.
1-17-44

(Special to the Daily Worker)

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 16. — A touch of red-baiting in the campaign for equal right for jobs has been sharply rebuked by leading Negro jurists and educators and by organizations such as the Action Committee of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

"Let's all join hands together," writes Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey, prominent Negro jurist, in the current Philadelphia Tribune, Negro weekly. His article recalls the Communists' struggle for the Scottsboro boys. He praises their aggressiveness and clears them from the charge of creating disorder.

Magistrate Rainey says the Communists' help should be welcomed in the campaign to force the Philadelphia Transportation Company, and its company union, to upgrade Negroes in compliance with the President's order.

"Just try frightening a Negro rank and file audience by bringing up the Communist scare and see where you land," writes Arthur Huff Fauset, principal of Philadelphia's largest primary school and chairman of the United People's Action Committee, one of the leaders in the PTC campaign.

CAN'T BE BOTH

"The time is nearly here when you cannot be at the same time anti-Communist and anti-Nazi," Fauset declares in his article in last week's Tribune. 1-17-44

Fauset predicts that the day is nearby when the principles of the American Communist Party will be vindicated in the life of our nation, and "men will link Browder with Jefferson, Douglass and Lincoln."

At the largest meeting it has ever held, the Action Committee of the NAACP itself went on record unanimously recording the unity of the committee. The Board of Directors of the NAACP was called on to answer a recent Philadelphia Record attack on the committee.

EDICT ON NEGRO BUS EMPLOYES DEFIED BY UNION

Daily Tribune-Chicago, Ill. 1-6-44

Ignore U. S. Order, Company Urged.

Philadelphia, Pa., Jan. 5 (AP).—The Employes' union of the Philadelphia Transportation company today defied a government order to accept Negroes as fellow workers on the city's buses and trolleys.

In a letter signed by union leaders, including union President Frank R. Carney, the workers informed Malcolm Ross, chairman of the President's fair employment practices committee, that "we cannot comply with the terms" of the committee's order. 1-6-44

Company Urged to Resist.

At the same time, Carney, in a letter to R. T. Senter, president of the Philadelphia Transportation company, asked the company "to take no steps" to comply with the order.

The independent union also revealed it tentatively has arranged for a hearing Tuesday before a house of representatives committee investigating employment practices.

Union officials said employment of Negroes in jobs from which they are now barred would result in "strikes and picketing." They contend the employment of Negroes would violate the union's contract with the transportation company.

Union Contract Cited.

The company today served notice on the fair employment practices committee that it considers itself "bound by its contract [with the union] and will not take action in violation thereof unless and until the committee's directives, now challenged, shall be finally established."

The statement was made in a letter signed by Senter and directed to Ross.

ILO Delegate Accuses U. S. Of Race Bias

PM-New York, N.Y.
4-28-44

By Karl Pretshold
Staff Correspondent

PHILADELPHIA, Apr. 28.—The United States Government follows a policy "based on frank racial discrimination" in handling and paying workers employed in building fortifications in the Canal Zone, Diogenes De La Rosa, Government delegate from Panama charged in a speech at the ILO (International Labor Organization) conference in session here.

There are, he declared, two wage scales, one for white workers, the "gold roll" and a second, the "silver roll" for non-white workers. Many Latin Americans are included on the "silver roll' and are paid less for the same work than the whites on the "gold roll."

"The principle of equal pay for equal work does not apply in the Canal Zone," De La Rosa declared. Those on the gold roll have privileges which are not available to the silver roll workers. Chauffeurs on the gold roll, he related, draw $1.05 an hour while silver roll chauffeurs are paid 75 cents an hour.

Skilled Panamanian workers, De La Rosa declared, often draw less than white apprentices or helpers. This discrimination violates an anti-discrimination agreement between the United States and Panama governments signed in 1936, he said.

The Panamanian delegates plan to present a memorandum "signed by hundreds of crude and humble but sincere Democrats," who are now working on fortifications in the Canal Zone, to President Roosevelt and Secretary Perkins. He told the ILO conference the memorandum will ask an end to the discrimination policy. 4-28-44

A resolution which would remove the bulk of the work planned for the ILO conference to a special committee was drafted by delegates of the Canadian Government.

The resolution asked that the committee be appointed and instructed to report to the ILO at the next convention, probably next year.

Penn RR to Hire Negro Stewards

Daily Worker, N.Y.
4-6-44

(Special to the Daily Worker)

WASHINGTON, April 4. — The Pennsylvania Railroad, one of the biggest rail companies in the country, has promised to employ Negroes as dining car stewards, choosing them on the same basis as other applicants, without regard to race, creed or color.

The commitment was made at a conference here attended by Pennsylvania Railroad representatives and spokesmen for the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee and the AFL Dining Car Employe Union.

The Pennsylvania is the second road to fall in line recently. The ice was broken on discrimination in dining car departments a few weeks ago when the North-Western Railway placed five Negroes on the stewards' seniority roster.

Maceo Hubbard represented the FEPC and George E. Brown, T. A. Jackson and R. W. Smith appeared for the union. They issued a joint statement later which said that as a result of Pennsylvania's new policy they anticipated that many big eastern roads would follow suit and grant jobs of higher classifications to Negroes. 4-5-44

For some time Pennsylvania has been paying Negro waiters-in-charge the same wages as stewards when employed on large dining cars but refused to grant them official steward status or place them on the seniority roster.

Many of these waiters-in-charge, employed on jobs formerly classified as stewards, contend that they are stewards in fact. This dispute was left unsettled as a result of the carrier's promise to employ Negroes as stewards. However, the union is assisting these Negroes in preparing a case for the National Railroad Adjustment Board.

My Momma Don Tol Me

Tribune-Philadelphia, Pa.
By WM. C. JASON, JR.

"I'd love to know. I wish I had the brains to think it through." 1-22-44

1776 TO TRUE AMERICANS is a holy number. To them it spells Freedom.

Now, 1776 Philadelphia Traction Company employees show their concept of Freedom. They petition to be sustained in contracting Negroes into economic bondage. This is a 1944 contribution to the Four Freedoms. The yoke struck off in 1776, this 1776 would firmly fasten on black Americans today.

The "employee's union" stole the right to specific jobs from citizens who happen to be Negroes. It stole the right to upgrading from fellow "union members" who are Negro. It hid this loot in the clause of a phoney "bilateral contract." Party of the first being the 1776 stooge-mice-men of "men and management;" party of the second part being the 17-age-level, public-be-damned-utility

Now the "1776-ers" hit the true level of their low intelligence, depravity and despair when they say: "We will strike if Negroes get these jobs because all Negroes have syphiis. Negro PTC rail grinders and janitors all have it? All the Negro traveling public has it?"

We Negroes really owe the "1776-ers" a lot. They could keep any of us from a job. They could strike to keep us from even riding on the trolleys since germs do not travel just one way—from inside the ticket booth outward. They could stop all those white women from accepting our token—awful dangerous—so many have on crowded, Negro hands. They could hermetically seal the conductor's stool—might leave a germ.

No **bona fide** labor union could decide: "Better to **The price paid for this screwy, sordid lying defense of the un-Democratic is quite clear. The company union, like a faithful puppy, fights first for its master and next for its own degenerate. It has no appeal to thousands of the employees. CIO looms large on the horizon. When it comes, all have Smith in our corner in a fight on Negroes, than Negroes in our corner in a fight on reaction which is anti-union. Faithful to its creed, Negroes will then operate PTC Jew, anti-labor, anti-Negro And sometimes even anti-trolleys.** 1-22-44

So the boss says to the king puppy of the 1776 puppies: "Looks bad, boys. You got to do something. If you don't, you boys will be dead ducks around here...CIO will take over. Of course, if we can keep Negroes out, you will be big dogs. CIO won't be able to take over. We'll both win. Now don't use my name, I'll just lay back and help."

If that isn't sense, just figure out how long management would tolerate a contract clause offered by their "beloved union" that read "and the company shall employ as conductors and motormen only red-headed girls" or "only one-eyed men" or "only Irish Catholics."

The whole thing stinks; but when you're dumb, you're dumb. Clucks like this would start court martial proceedings against Dorie Miller because the U. S. Navy did not hire him as a gunner—if only the boss would request it.

WASTED MANPOWER

Tribune-Philadelphia, Pa.

By ALBERT BLACK

"We are either progressing or retrograding all the while, there is no such thing as remaining stationary in this life."—James Freeman Clarke. 1-22-44

ON January 7th there appeared an editorial in the Philadelphia Record in reference to the controversy between the FEPC directive and the PRT Company Union. The title of the editorial was "Exploiters Peril Rights of Negroes to P. T. C. Jobs."

In my humble opinion, it was one of the most disgusting editorials I have ever read. If I hadn't looked at the name of the paper, I would have taken for granted that the editorial came from McCormick's "Chicago Tribune", which is known to have a pro-Fascist policy.

BLACK

I wish to quote two parts of this editorial that are very contradictory in regard to the Negroes' position in fighting for his citizenship rights :(1.) "Race prejudice is intolerable"; (2) "If all sides keep their heads, if an intelligent solution is sought by leaders of both sides; two results can be obtained (a) job rights for the Negroes, (b) public acceptance, approval and good will."

The author of that editorial has made a feeble attempt to take a shot at organized labor as being partially to blame for Negroes not being upgraded. VARIOUS OTHER PAPERS, NEGRO AND WHITE, ARE TRYING TO MISGUIDE THE PUBLIC AND INFLUENCE THEM AGAINST ORGANIZED LABOR. This one established fact must be made clear in every one's mind. A COMPANY UNION, SUCH AS THE P.R.T. EMPLOYEES' UNION, DOES NOT REPRESENT ORGANIZED LABOR.

I wrote in this column several weeks ago that a Company Union is more guilty of being a traitor to the worker than the Company itself. A COMPANY UNION IS NOT CREATED TO HELP THE WORKER, WHETHER HE BE WHITE OR BLACK. They are created to keep the Negro and white worker divided and thus being divided, they can continue to be exploited by industry. WHAT BETTER EXAMPLES OF COMPANY UNION'S POLICIES DO WE HAVE THAN THE POINT BREEZE EMPLOYEES' ASSOCIATION AT THE WESTERN ELECTRIC PLANT IN BALTIMORE, WHO WENT OUT ON A STRIKE BECAUSE THEY WANTED SEGREGATED TOILET FACILITIES, AND THE SUN SHIP EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION WHO EXPLOITED THE NEGRO WORKER FOR SEVEN YEARS? 1-22-44

An unusual angle of this editorial was the display of social ignorance by the author who fails to realize that the struggle of organized labor and Negroes are synonymous. IF ORGANIZED LABOR IS GIVEN FAIR TREATMENT BY INDUSTRY SO WILL THE NEGRO.

The P. R. T. has threatened to strike if colored citizens are upgraded. A strike of the city transportation workers in the country's No. 1 defense center would do more to harm our armed forces than if our boys had been prevented from landing on the soil of Italy or Tarawa. GENERAL MARSHALL BLASTED OUT IN FULL FURY AGAINST ORGANIZED LABOR WHEN IT JUST THREATENED TO STRIKE BECAUSE OF A JUSTIFIED CAUSE, BUT HE HAS REMAINED SILENT ON THE PHILADELPHIA SITUATION.

Representative Howard W. Smith, author of the vicious anti-labor Smith-Connally Strike Law, is urging a major change in the Government policy, a proposal to the FEPC to cancel the order directing the Philadelphia Street Car Co. to promote 24 experienced colored employees in positions as conductors and motormen.

THIS IS TYPICAL OF THE AMERICAN FASCISTS WHO, LIKE WESTBROOK PEGLER, SAYS THAT THE CAUSES OF PREJUDICE ARE THE COMMUNISTS, NEGRO PRESS, AND ORGANIZED LABOR. REPRESENTATIVE SMITH CANNOT BE ANALYZED. IT HAS BEEN SAID THAT HE WAS NOT A SUBJECT FOR AN ESSAYIST OR A SOCIAL HISTORIAN BUT FOR A PSYCHIATRIST. SMITH IS FOR THE COMPANY UNION BECAUSE HE DOESN'T WANT PHILADELPHIA CITIZENS TO BE TOO ALERT FOR EVIDENCE OF FASCIST BEGINNING IN HIS THINKING.

PRT Union Officials Threaten Strike If PTC Hires Colored Motormen

Tribune-Philadelphia, Pa.

"IF colored workers are employed, we will strike."

1-8-44

That is the defiant statement issued by the P. R. T. Employees' Union.

America is at war!

Transportation is essential to the war effort.

Hundreds of thousands of colored men are fighting all over the world to protect the lives and property of the PTC and of the members of the P. R. T. Union.

But if colored men are permitted to work we will tie up the entire Philadelphia Transportation system," says the little bigoted minds who control the P. R. T. Union.

Damn the war! Let the men at the front die! Let their bones bleach on the hot sands! Let their blood make red the muddy fox holes in the isles of the Pacific! We are going to hold tight to our prejudices, says the P. R. T. Union.

Damn the war! We are the master race. No black hand will ever touch a driving switch on a trolley car or collect a ticket except over our dead bodies.

Damn the public! Let the people stand on street corners and freeze while idle cars remain empty in car barns. We are members of the master race and can do no wrong.

Damn the soldiers who are fighting for freedom! We want none of it, if it interferes with our exclusive right to operate trolley cars.

Damn the war workers! Our special privileges will be maintained even if they never get to work. We would rather Heil Hitler and salute Tojo than yield to those who think that colored people are fit to operate a street car.

It is almost impossible to believe that there are people of that kind living in Philadelphia, the Cradle of Liberty, during 1944.

But the soldiers at the front, the war workers, the public and the war effort will not be damned because a few people have warped minds and shriveled souls.

Unless the heart of Philadelphia is dead and rotten, the people will arise and speak in terms that even the little men of the P. R. T. Union can understand.

This affront to all that is decent and honorable can not be permitted to stand. This challenge to the people of Philadelphia will be met. 1-8-44

It now becomes imperative for the PTC to employ colored operators. The public will back the company, if it is not too cowardly to act.

If the strike is called, it will not last long because even P. R. T. Union men could not live with the public condemnation which would surely follow.

Phila. Transit Jimcrow Fight Won, Negroes to Get Job Rights

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA, July 7.—A big victory over jimcrow was won today when the Philadelphia Transportation company posted noticed stating that it would accept new employees from the War Manpower Commission "without regard to the applicant's race, creed, color, or national origin." 7-10-44

In addition Negroes now employed by the PTC will be upgraded equally with white workers. It is estimated that allowing for training time, Negroes will be running trolleys here within the next month or two. The victory follows a long campaign against the jimcrow policies of the PTC led by the NAACP and the United Peoples Action Committee, headed by Arthur Huff Fauset and Elsie Smith. The company used its old company union to stir up anti-Negro prejudices, and divided the workers but the company union went down to defeat when the CIO Transport Workers Union won bargaining rights last February.

The question of hiring Negro women is not covered in today's announcement by the company.

FEPC Directs Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Union To Cease Racial Employment Barriers

Age-Herald, New York, N.Y.
1-15-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice has directed that the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employees' Union eliminate all barriers to the employment or upgrading of Negroes into platform jobs with the Philadelphia Transportation Company, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced last week.

The directive was contained in an opinion and order issued by the Committee December 27, 1943, affirming the proposed Findings of the FEPC which were announced November 17, 1943, and making effective immediately the proposed directives issued the same date.

At the same time, the company was instructed to comply with the FEPC directives immediately also, and to notify the Committee should the company's efforts in this direction meet with any opposition by or on behalf of the union, or...any other person."

The opinion and order were issued after study by the Committee of the record gathered at the public hearing in Philadelphia, December 6, when the union offered arguments to show why it should not comply with the proposed directive. The hearing was scheduled at the request of the union which, along with the company, had been granted ten days from issuance of the proposed findings and directives to register objection.

No Company Opposition

The company made no request for a hearing nor took any other action to register opposition to the Committee's original pronouncements. 1-15-44

At the hearing, the union presented a prepared statement denying it discriminated, and arguing that "the maintenance of a satisfactory employer-employee relationship should not be changed "in the absence of its 1,000 members in the armed forces.

Main basis for the union's opposition to the directive was that it would violate a clause in the contract existing with the company. The clause reads: "All existing rules, regulations and customs bearing on the employer-employee relationship shall continue in full force and effect until changed by agreement between the parties."

This clause, the union interpreted to mean that Negroes could hold only those jobs held previously by Negroes, and white workers only those jobs held previously by white workers.

The Committee, in its opinion, pointed out that the testimony at the hearing indicated the contractual clause in question had been originally meant to refer to a number of departmental rules and regulations which existed prior to signing of the contract and had no relation to race. Continuing, the FEPC said: 1-15-44

"The union...by the testimony of its own witness...admits that its policy is to exclude Negroes from jobs held by its white members, and to exclude white employees from jobs held by Negroes. Such a policy constitutes racial discrimination against both white and colored employees or applicants for employment and violates the Executive Order. Admittedly, too, the union's interpretation of its contract tends to perpetuate this discrimination policy."

In reply to the union's position on changes in the absence of members now in the armed forces, the Committee said: "Until the contrary is made to appear in no uncertain terms, this Committee will presume that the members of our armed forces who daily are risking or are ready to risk their lives in the cause of world democracy, believe in democracy at home for all citizens irrespective of race, creed, color or national origin."

Open Letter to Mayor Samuel On The PTC

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.
1-15-44

Mayor Bernard Samuel
City Hall, Philadelphia,

Dear Mayor Samuel:

Because you are the Chief Executive of Philadelphia, the public has been anxiously awaiting some word from you on the matter of the refusal of the PTC to employ colored workers as operators of street cars and buses.

You must know that the controversy has now reached a showdown.

Your silence in this grave hour is difficult to understand. The issues involves transcend partisan politics. They rise higher than any personal ambitions which you or anyone else may have. The time has past for you to consider which is the most popular side to take; which side would be able to deliver the most votes. 1-15-44

Right and wrong have clashed head-on. Human justice is the sole issue involved.

You must take sides. The PTC is a public utility. It could not operate a single day without its public franchise. The streets over which it operates its cars belong to all the people of Philadelphia. The City of Philadelphia owns most of the subway system. It has representatives on the board of directors.

You are the Mayor of all the citizens—colored and white. Your silence is being interpreted as meaning that you favor the present discrimination against colored people. In the face of the evidence, that is the logical conclusion.

The City of Philadelphia has a great stake in the present fight for justice and equality.

You have been quoted as saying that "There is no racial problem in Philadelphia." What do you call the present controversy in which the PRT Employees' Union threatens to strike if the colored citizens of your city are permitted to operate a street car?

Assume for the moment that the Union had made that same threat if Catholics or Jews were employed. Would you remain quiet?

Is it possible that you agree with those who think there is a special place for colored people; that colored people who attempt to move out of it are agitators and dangerous?

When you sought election a few months back, you stated you knew no color line. You swore when you accepted the office of mayor that you would uphold the Constitution. The Constitution provides that colored people are citizens. The present practices of the PTC and the Company Union violate the rights of your fellow colored citizens. 1-15-44

You cannot remain quiet without violating that oath.

It is the sincere hope of this newspaper that you will rise above any political consideration and act as a great Mayor should—Advocate Equality of opportunity for all citizens.

Finally may we suggest with proper respect for the office of Mayor that the people of this great city will continue to press for equality of opportunity; that if any heat is engendered it will be the direct result of those who lack the ability to understand the present temper of the people.

Respectfully yours,
THE PHILADELPHIA TRIBUNE
Published for 59 years.

LET FREEDOM REIGN!

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.

By Joseph H. Rainey

Forget Credit . . . Let Us Operate Trolleys

1-8-44

THE PTC continues to seek help over the radio.

RAINEY

INEFFICIENT help is hired daily by the PTC.

BUT — EFFICIENT NEGRO help is still turned down.

And WORST of all Negroes are NOW beginning to squabble over who will get credit for the victory if and when it is won.

What does it matter how many people are killed or injured or how many trolley cars are damaged or how many thousands of dollars must be paid in settlement for damage suits—just so long as the operators of the cars are WHITE? This is the philosophy of the PTC and the company union.

The most recent flame to spread across the turbulent waters of discrimination and segregation, as practiced by the local traction company, is that the red flag of Communism is being waved in the faces of the company, union, Negroes and public.

Maybe the UNITED PEOPLE'S ACTION COMMITTEE is controlled by Communists and maybe it is not, but one thing certain is that no real action took place towards securing upgrading for Negroes in the PTC until the United People's Action Committee became active.

The spreading of this story about the UPAC was inspired by Negroes, it is said, and seemingly because someone is fearful that one group might get a little more credit for victory than another. The writer does not believe that the average Negro in this city gives a hoot who gets the credit—just so long as some black men are hired to operate street cars in the third largest city in the United States.

It seems to me there is a coun- not fought as valiantly as they try in the war at this time fight- have, BOMBS would probably ing on the side of the Allies nam- have dropped upon our shores ed RUSSIA, and that COM- long ago. 1-8-44
MUNISM is practiced there. Un- *If my memory serves me* less my ears fooled me and my *right, there were nine Negro* eyes deceived me RUSSIA, with *boys in Alabama, who would be* all its COMMUNISM, has done *in their graves today, if it had* a hell of a lot of fighting that *not been for the fight put forth* has been advantageous to the *for them by the Communists in* country you and I love and if *this country. We all remember* the Communists of Russia had *the SCOTTSBORO CASE*

when the Negro boys were fram in his fight for better jobs on th
ly saved through local traction company, they cer
the Communis tainly have interested themselve
E BOYS WANT in a worthwhile project. No on
LIVES SAVED has been able to point their fin
WELCOMED ger towards a bit of disorder i
OF THE COM this struggle and probably won'
unless the UNION is responsi
ble for it. UNION OFFICIALS
In the present. F
more the merrier.
munists have inte
selves in the cause
of the Negro will be any disorder.

The UNITED STATES is using everything at its command in order to win its battle. There is no reason why Negroes should not take advantage of every offer of help given them in their fight for positions on the PTC.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People had a branch in this city for years, which was seldom heard from if a real militant fight was needed to win a cause. Under the leadership of Dr. Harry Greene, now Lieutenant Greene, it began to move along at a faster pace in the interests of Negroes and under its present leader, Attorney Theodore Spaulding, it has continued to show aggressiveness — BUT NOT ENOUGH. 1-8-44

This is no time to hold your tongue or your actions. PEOPLES ALL OVER THE WORLD are fighting DESPERATELY for what is rightfully theirs and there should be no STOP SIGN when it comes to the N. A. A. C. P. showing aggressiveness in the interest of Negroes.

Many methods have been used in an effort to win the PTC fight. The N. A. A. C. P. cannot afford to take a narrow angle, but should accept any kind of help (so long as it is orderly) in the PTC fight if it will further the cause and help win the fight.

Negroes need militant leadership here and elsewhere today, and the day is at hand when the right men are no longer going to permit pussyfooters, who label themselves leaders, to reconcile them with compromises, which actually sell the Negroes down the RIVER and leave them just as bad off as they were before.

LET'S ALL JOIN HANDS TOGETHER AND WIN THE PTC FIGHT ANY WAY WE CAN.

P.T.C. Stupid And Shortsighted

Tribune, Philadelphia, Pa.
2-5-44

AN EDITORIAL

THE fact that P. T. C. has permitted the question of employing colored workers as conductors, motormen, etc., to become an issue reveals one thing very glaringly—the stupidity and shortsightedness of company officers and executives.

The "cry" about a clause in their contract with the Union prohibiting the upgrading of colored workers and the company's stated unwillingness to break the contract is just about the weakest and most inconsistent argument I've ever heard. It is weak because every sensible person knows it represents nothing more than a post behind which to hide. It is inconsistent because no loyal, well meaning American would go "all out" in preaching about the cause of democracy and then fight tooth and toenail against its practical application. This is precisely what P. T. C. has done.

The fact that high-salaried P. T. C. executives could find no stronger argument to back up a stand which has been taken with such firm determination, certainly reveals their lack of plain, common horse sense. One of the rudimentary lessons an executive operating a public utility learns is to avoid bringing into the open any issue or controversy involving the company and the public. If company officials did not know this they are stupid. If they did know it but felt that their "argument" was strong enough to withstand the scrutiny of both the public and the United States Government they are stupid 2-5-44

Further, capable salary-earning executives learn early to avoid being forced to take action. It is always preferable to reach a conclusion satisfactory to all concerned in the conference room rather than to permit a matter to become an issue and aired in the public. The question of employing colored motormen and conductors was submitted to the traction officials by Chris Perry, founder of the Philadelphia TRIBUNE in 1893. If they have been unable to work out some satisfactory adjustment in 50 years, this is additional evidence of stupidity at the top.

They are shortsighted because every school boy knows this is a war involving every race and color of men on the globe. On our side of the fence, helping us to wage the battle which will determine the future of mankind the world over are millions of colored people. We have definitely "sold" them on the idea of democracy. They have been told and believe that all men are equal, that all men are entitled to the full use and development of their talent and ability without any discrimination whatever.

These men will not leave their homes and yield their lives only to find themselves back in virtual slavery. Most thinking people the world over believe that an honest-to-goodness action democracy will emerge from this war. The world will not be the same. America will not be the same.

If P. T. C. executives cannot see this then they are hopelessly short-sighted.

PTC Can Quickly End Vital Wartime Labor Crisis

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa,

IT IS THE considered judgment of this newspaper that the citizens of Philadelphia on the whole are as fair-minded, as honorable and possess as fine a sense of justice as do the citizens of any other American City.

Of course, there are some who hold tight to outmoded prejudices and restraints and for a time check the onward march of progress. 7-22-44

These are the one who insisted that there should be no colored policemen because white people would not submit to arrest by a colored man. Colored policemen were appointed. Nothing happened.

Come the demand for the election of a Negro magistrate. "That will never do," these holdbacks cried. They prophesied that white citizens would rebel if taken before a colored magistrate. Amo Scott was elected in 1922 and now Philadelphia has three magistrates. Again the prophets were wrong.

In the educational system it was declared by this noisy minority that colored teachers must teach only colored children; that no Negro should be on the Board of Education; that no colored teacher should teach in junior or senior high schools; that no colored person should hold an administrative job in the school system. They declared that if any of these events transpired the white parents would boycott the schools and keep their children at home. Again these prophets of gloom were wrong. Colored citizens occupy all of the above enumerated positions in the school system and the public schools have not been boycotted.

7-22-44

To appoint colored women as nurses in the Philadelphia General Hospital would upset the social system of the hospital, declared these croakers. Not only colored nurses, but supervisors and clerks are working in that hospital and the social structure is still intact.

For a long time it was declared that colored lawyers could not receive justice for their clients in the Philadelphia courts. This humbuggery has gone by the board. It is common knowledge that colored lawyers get a fairer deal in the courts of Philadelphia than anywhere in America.

It is helpful, therefore, to keep in mind how mistaken these gloom prophets were in discussing the employment and upgrading of colored workers by the Philadelphia Transportation Company. All the talk about strikes, riots and public dissension which would occur if the bars of discrimination were let down is just so much bosh.

It has its origin in the heads of a few men at the top, where the wish is the father of the thought, and find its echo among a few of their hirelings who lack the intelligence to understand that they, too, are being exploited.

7-22-44

All of this senseless agitation can be quickly ended. All the PTC has to do is to employ men and women according to their respective abilities. The great majority of Philadelphia car riders don't care anything about the color of the operator. They are only interested in safe and efficient transportation.

SOAPBOX -- by Adam Clayton Powell, Jr.

POWELL

People's Voice-New York, N. Y.

THE RECENT VICTORY OF NEGROES over the Philadelphia Transit Company in the matter of employment on street cars as motormen and conductors highlights the formula for victory by which Negroes can expect to press forward to their democratic rights. Some of us awoke to this plan years ago. It is high time that the others of us who are still sleeping in the arms of rugged individualism, fear of labor unions and the Communist party label, awake to the tune of the new times and the new Negro.

This victory formula consists of:

● **militant mass action by organized Negro citizens' groups (such as the People's Action Committee of Philadelphia, headed by Arthur Huff Fauset and Elsie Smith, the Negro Labor Victory Committee of New York, and others);**

● **close collaboration with organized labor (as in the case of the CIO Transit Workers in Philadelphia);** 7.22.44

● **support of a progressive federal government (with such liberal committees as the FEPC).**

This formula worked in New York with the transit fight that I initiated a few years ago. It worked in Chicago, where I was called to help push the fight against the city's transportation system. It has worked in Philadelphia after a hard and bitter two-year battle. And it will work in Los Angeles and Washington, D.C.!

Besides the labor unions, progressive government elements, and mass action by organized local Negro groups, credit must also be given to the NAACP, the National Negro Congress and the National Urban League, which were not found wanting when the challenge came. 7-22-44

Now, although the above-mentioned formula is the answer, it is not the complete answer. This formula must be supported by a progressive and liberal federal government, and that is where we come in and come in STRONG. For, without a government of this sort, as exemplified in the Roosevelt administration—despite its death struggle with the die-hard southern bigots and their fellow travelers, the northern Republicans—our efforts will go for naught.

We are well aware of the fascists in the Democratic Party. No one has shouted at them from the house tops louder than I have. No one has called them more names and dogged their footsteps more lustily than PV has done. Yet, none with eyes to see and ears to hear and a brain to function can deny that the New Deal has given more opportunity to the Negro to fight for his rights and to gain some of those rights than any other administration since Reconstruction days. 7-22-44

We also realize that many of the gains that have come to Negroes have trickled down to him through the channels of legislation in behalf of organized labor and underprivileged groups. But we know that what is good for these elements is good for us, since our lot is tied with theirs, and not with a few white collared Negroes in big, fat government jobs.

With all due respects to our friends in the Grand Old Party, it has proven itself to be tied to the apron strings of labor-baiting, America-first and other pressure gangs that hide behind the shibboleth of states' rights, as does our New York governor.

And that brings up another case in point against putting HIS sort of administration in power. With all the pressure brought to bear upon Mr. Dewey by liberal groups to give the New York members of the fighting forces on foreign soil a chance to vote in the coming elections, he has stood adamant in his denial to them of their constitutional rights, ludicrously hiding behind the Constitution itself.

If ever there was a chance for Negroes and their friends to prove their mettle and to show their guts, as well as to use their God-given intelligence, it is NOW. We know that the balance of power in a number of our large electoral states lies with us. Are we to continue to let ourselves be hoodwinked into the belief that the party of the Great Emancipator is the Republican Party of today? 7.22.44

As Patrick Henry said: "Is life so dear or peace so sweet that it can be purchased at the price of chains and slavery? Forbid it, Almighty God!"

No Women Upgraded

People's Voice-New York, N.Y.

Negro women will not be given an opportunity for employment with the Philadelphia Transportation Company in any positions other than those they now hold as cleaners of station washrooms, it was announced by the Philadelphia NAACP this week. Despite recent announcements that Negroes would be upgraded in their work with the company, NAACP officials said that this does not mean that there will be no restrictions on their employment. 8-5-44

Fight Pushed on Union's Race Bias

PROVIDENCE, R.I., May 17.—Negro workers at Walsh-Kaiser shipyard, who in January won a temporary injunction upholding their right to equal standing with the white workers in the powerful AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, today were launched on their fight for a permanent injunction against racial discrimination by the union.

Erley B. Hutton, George R. Shmoke and Joseph Andrade testified before Superior Court Judge Patrick J. Curran yesterday that when they joined the union they were initiated along with white workers and were given to understand they were being accepted as full-fledged members of the Shipyard Local 308.

Not until a few months before the local's annual election of officers last December, did they learn that international officers of the union had tabbed them members of an "auxiliary" union restricted to Negroes. As a result, when Negro workers tried to vote their ballots were marked with a "C" and placed in envelopes, they said.

Ballots cast in the December election have been held up by court order pending final outcome of the case, and, according to testimony yesterday, no meeting of Local 308 has been held since the Negro members instituted their equal rights suit. While the action is brought by six workers, its final outcome will affect the status of several hundred Negroes at the shipyard.

Union Admits Jim-Crowing

Special Correspondence

PROVIDENCE, May 18.—The rights and privileges accorded Negro workers segregated into a so-called "auxiliary" of the powerful International Boilermakers' Union, AFL, are considerably less than those their white fellow workers enjoy, according to testimony on record today in Superior Court.

Testifying in the suit of the six Negro workers at Walsh-Kaiser shipyard, who seek a permanent injunction against racial discrimination, William J. Buckley, an international vice president of the Boilermakers Union, conceded that under by-laws of the so-called International auxiliary, locals of the auxiliary are under the "supervision" of locals of the "regular" union in any particular territory.

Thurgood Marshall, attorney for the NAACP (National Assn. for the Advancement of Colored People), elicited from Buckley, for example, that members of a Negro auxiliary would have no grievance committee of their own. Instead, they would have one member on a general grievance committee for white and Negro workers on any particular job.

Buckley said that at Walsh-Kaiser, there are five members on the grievance committee and the single Negro member gives the race representation beyond its numerical strength, which he put at one out of 30 workers.

If a Negro member of the auxiliary wishes to change to a higher job classification Marshall also brought out, his application goes first to the "regular" local made up of white workers, and then to the International headquarters in Kansas City, Kan., for approval.

The 400 Negroes at the Walsh-Kaiser yard have declined to form an auxiliary union and in the current suit, which resumes Monday, seek to show that the auxiliary is illegal and a mere "paper organization set up to deprive them of equal treatment."

Negroes Pay Twice Rate Of Whites For Insurance

PROVIDENCE, R. I.—Negro members of the jim crow auxiliary of the Boilermakers union pay twice as much for insurance as the white members of the regular locals, it was testified here June 14 by William Buckley, international vice president of the union.

Buckley's testimony came at the close of a four-week hearing in Superior court before Judge Patrick J. Curran n a suit to secure a permanent injuction against auxiliary unions in this state. Negro workers at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyards here brought the suit after their ballots were thrown out in a union election last December. In January they secured a temporary injunction issued by Judge Alexander Churchill.

The colored workers are represented by Thurgood Marshall, NAACP Special Counsel, and Joseph LeCount of this city.

Counsel for both sides will file briefs with court June 21 and at that time will decide whether closing arguments will be made.

35c-1944

Tennessee

Protests Changing Negroes or Whites In Dept. Store

Amsterdam News—New York N.Y.

9-23-44

Says Reconstruction Due to Bias

Charging that "the action of the Brys Department Store, the largest in Memphis, Tennessee, in reconverting to prejudice, by discharging its Negro elevator operators while at the same time advertising for white operators, is the first example of the economic reaction facing Negroes as the war nears an end," Rev. Aron S. Gilmartin, national chairman of the Workers Defense League, wired Sen. Dennis Chavez and Rep. Marty Norton, chairmen of the Senate and House committee in charge of the bill for a Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, urging them to report the bill to the Senate and House for immediate action. 9-23-44

The House Labor Committee, of which Mrs. Norton is chairman, had announced the completion of hearings on the Dawson-Scanlon-LaFollette Bill for a permanent FEPC had been postponed until after elections. Rev. Gilmartin's wire to Mrs. Norton also asked hom each member of the House Labor Committee had voted on the postponment, which the WDL chairman called a "slap in the face to two million members of minority groups serving in the armed forces."

35c-1944

Tennessee

Negro Workers Return To Firestone After Protesting Wrongs Of Fellow Worker

Memphis World — Memphis, Tenn.

6-13-44

Hundreds of Negro employees of the Firestone Rubber Company plant here returned to their jobs last Saturday afternoon, following a protest walk-out over the brutal beating of a fellow Negro employee by Firestone guards. The workers left the plant last Friday afternoon.

The victim was James Jackson, 40, 1240 Nichols Street in North Memphis. He was beaten by plant guards and arrested by police, following the altercation which occurred around 3:30 p. m. Friday.

Jackson was fined $78 in City Court Saturday morning, charged with being drunk, disturbing the peace, resisting arrest, and carrying a dangerous weapon. He said he did not have any witnesses in his behalf at the hearing, and that the judge asked him only two questions.

He was asked, "Were you drunk?" He replied, "No, sir, I had drunk only a pint of beer." The second question was, "Did you have a knife?" He answered, "I did..... but it was not open and I never attempted to open it.'

In an interview Sautrday evening Jackson told the following story:

"I went to the plant Friday afternoon around 3 o'clock I was supposed to begin at 3 o'clock. I was two minutes late. I noticed this when I punched the time clock. I went to my foreman...a Mr. Mack.....and reported my tardiness to him....it is a rule at the plant that if a worker is three minutes or less late, he should report to his foreman and have the matter adjusted in order not to have his pay docked. 6-13-44

"The foreman told me that he didn't have time to see about the matter at that time. I went to the dressing room to change into my work clothes. When I had changed I went to the foreman again and asked about inspecting my punched time card to see that I was only two minutes late. He said to me, "Wel, you can go to work or you can back home; I don't have time to bother with oyu now."

Jackson said it was then that he decided to go home....because he did not wish to have his pay deducted inasmuch as he was in the limit allowed for being late..and because the foreman seemed unwilling to give him any attention to establish the fact. When he told the foreman he would go home, the foreman said, "all right," Jackson went into the dressing room to change to his street clothing. While he was in there ,the foreman returned with two guards.

One of the guards said," "All right, "Sir, but wons' you give me time to change clothes..... I'm sure you wouldn't want me to go through the plant in the presence of the white ladies working there without my clothes on." The second guard said, "Yes, let him finish changing clothes."

Jackson said when he left the dressing room he was met by the guards and the foreman, now joined by another foreman and 2 guards. The group walked towards the foremans' office. On the way one of the guards began an argument with Jackson, accusing him of trying to be smart and otherwise abusing him verbally. While he was talking with the first guard another walked up from behind and struck Jackson with a blackjack. Jackson said he threw up his hands and the first guard started beating him. Neither of the foremen took part, nor attemtped to stop the assault. 6-13-44

When Jackson saw still other guards approaching he said he started running, without having attempted to resist. He ran out of the plant gate, but the guards cursed him and dragged him back into the guards' gatehouse at the Firestone entrance. When they got him inside they beat him some more. Finally they called the police City police arrived and the beating ceased. Jackson said the city policemen treated him all right not even saying a harsh word to him.

Jackson, a native of Covington, Tenn., who has lived in Memphis since 1940, and came here to work following a period of farming in Mississippi, stated that he has never been arrested before. He declared that he was not drunk when he went on his job. He further stated that he did not attempt to fight the guards, despite the report in one of the daily newspapers. 6-13-44

He is not a member of the CIO union which represents workers at Firestone. He stated that he could not account for the reason the colored workers left the plant following the assault on him, other than the fact that there have been several occasions when workers have protested over the attitude and treatment the Firestone guards accord Negro workers in the plant cafeteria and at the plant gates.

Jackson lives with his wife and mother-in-law and a young niece in a three-room house on gravelled Nichols Street in North Memphis. He has a brother, Horace Jackson in the armed service overseas. His wife is employed at the Buckeye Cotton Oil Mill in Binghamton, and both work regularly.

When asked whether or not he plans to return to work at Firestone, Jackson stated that he was uncertain.....that he is "more concerned with getting his pay now due and not having any further trouble with the guards and other white workers who might want to molest him."

He stated that no word or communication had been received from oficial of the plant. Newspaper attempts to reach officials of the CIO union local which represents the Firestone workers and personel officials at Firestone were not successful. 6-13-44

However it was stated in one account that a group of white workers at the plant went on record as saying, "We want it clearly understood that we resent the manner in which the James Jackson case was handled by supervision in Department 12. We are especially displeased with the brutal beating of this man at the east gate guardhouse after he had been disarmed and subdued. We think the guards should change their method of dealing with Negro employes. It is not impossible to be firm and at the same time be fair.'

POST-WAR TIMBER

Whites Replace Negro Operators

Informer — Houston, Texas

8-19-44

MEMPHIS — (ANP) — The action of the city's largest department store in replacing its Negro women elevator operators with white women, raised the question Wednesday in the minds of local citizens if this were not the first indication of the fate Negro workers would face in the post-war employment adjustment hovering around the corner.

The eight Negro women were given notice that their services would no longer be needed the same day that an advertisement was inserted in a daily newspaper seeking white operators and offering them $18 weekly. The store, Brys Department Store, had been paying the Negro women only $12 weekly.

In addition stools were installed in each of the elevator cars, whereas the Negro operators were forced to stand. No complaints had been called to their attention, the discharged women said. They had been working at Brys for more than a year after they had been called to fill the jobs vacated by white women who had gone to better paying jobs.

No New Jobs 8-19-44

M. J. Hartfield, superintendent of the store, when approached by the women for an explanation, refused to discuss the matter with them, the ousted operators said. None of the women have yet been able to obtain other employment, it was disclosed.

Negro Girls Replced in Memphis by White Girls on Elevators

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

9-9-44

MEMPHIS — The action of the city's largest department store in replacing its Negro women elevators with white women, raised the question in the minds of local citizens if this were not the first indication of the fate Negro workers would face in the post-war employment adjustment.

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STOOGES ADMIT BOSS CRUMP HAS THEM 'HOG-TIED'

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

3-25-44

Memphis 'Race Leaders' In Sorry Plight As Manhood Wilts

(Editor's Note.—When it was announced that President A. Philip Randolph of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters would make a second attempt to speak in Memphis, the Defender sent its southern staff correspondent, Harold Preece, author of the weekly column of the Living South, down to Boss Crump's private kingdom to "poke around." What Mr. Preece discovered is, we believe, a record of shameful betrayal of Negroes by their own leaders, of open and brazen collusion by rich Memphis Negroes with the most oppressive anti-Negro political machine in the whole South.

(This is the first of three articles by Mr. Preece, a native white Southerner, on conditions in Memphis. The second article, to be published in next week's issue, will show how the Hernando street bourbons fight against every organized expression of Memphis Negroes to win freedom.) 3-25-44

* * * *

By HAROLD PREECE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—For his money—and he's got a wad of it—Straw Boss Dr. J. E. Walker will take Big Boss Ed Crump any time to a "demagogue" like A. Philip Randolph who's coming back here for a second time next month in an attempt to speak for the "March on Washington" movement.

For his insurance company—the Universal Life's fat as its president, Dr. Walker, and its scheming secretary, M. W. Bonner—the one-time medico turned business man helped fire courageous, progressive Benjamin F. Bell Jr., former secretary of the Memphis Urban League, who wrote an anti-Crump article in the Chicago Defender. 3-25-44

Ben Bell is one of the most courageous men I've met during a lifetime in the South. To put it very chairtably, Dr. Walker is one of the most compromising, one of those most afraid of Crump's shadow dominating Memphis from the honkey-tonks of Vance street to Crump's real estate office where 2,000,000 Tennesseeans of both colors are moved around like pawns on a checkerboard. 3-25-44

"Yes, Crump is a dictator and the votes are already counted before they are cast," Dr. Walker was nervous and fidgety in that big chair in his private office when he made this admission to me last week. And I was just a little bit sick at the stomach when he said, like a kid who has been given a stick of candy as consolation for a whipping:

"But the machine is honest and economical."

By honesty, Dr. Walker explained, he meant that policemen were not allowed to graft and that city officials who stuck stray fivespots in their pockets got fired. By "economy," the doctor went on, he meant that the city government was not extravagant, not mentioning of course that Tennessee graft has been legalized in such a manner that everything flows into the pockets of the higher-ups without any divvy up for minor flunkeys.

"You say that Crump's machine is honest and economical, Dr. Walker," I replied. "But what is Crump's attitude toward Negroes?"

The reply was prompt and truthful: "He thinks that Negroes ought to stay in their place."

"When elections come around, do you get out and campaign as a Negro leader for Crump's candidates," I asked. 3-25-44

"I do," he admitted.

"Did you support the Crump candidates in the last election?" I shot back.

"I did," he replied.

It might be mentioned that Crump votes Negroes only in Memphis when their vote is needed to keep that rebellious Tennessee outside of Memphis from electing anti-Crump candidates in place of the Crumplets sitting in the state capital at Nashville. For this pur-

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[illegible]youth, that loyalty do not admire almost the first state-
[illegible]into a conservative ment that he made to me when he
[illegible]s it wise to sat down for an interview:
[illegible] I had expected, at the very least,

meetings to encourage Negro people to make use of the ballot in this state as a means of enhancing their position in this state.

Members of the Social Studies club are: Miss Stella L. Pecot, secretary; Miss Gloria E. Quinn, chairman of finance committee; Carter Wesley, owner of the Sentinel Informer; Miss Martella Howard, publicity director, and Ernest J. Wright, secretary of the association. Miss Pecot presented the association with $50 to help carry on the pro-

me objection based on principle ather than purse to that story published in the January 29 issue of he Defender, telling how Bell had been fired by the Crump clique controlling the Memphis Urban League after the Crump-directed Community Chest had threatened to withdraw funds from the Urban League if Bell remained as executive secretary. Named in the story as Bell's persecutors were the following Urban League directors:

M. W. Bonner, Urban League principle which spoke as I sat there in Dr. Walker's private office.

"We have half a million policy holders," Walker whined. "We have to protect their interests first."

"But those half a million policyholders are part of 13,000,000 Negroes," I suggested gently. "Isn't the welfare of those policy holders tied up with the general welfare of their race?"

"We have to think first of our policy holders and that will eventually benefit the Negro race," Walker insisted.

I wasn't ready to talk about Bell so I asked him about Randolph.

"I think that Randolph ought to have spoke last November," Walker said, referring to the famous incident when Crump's officials called in a delegation of prosperous Negroes and ordered them to help put the quietus on the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters president.

"If I'm called on to take a stand this time, I don't know. I think we ought to have free speech for any citizen." 3-25-44

Then Dr. Walker made the most contemptible statement of our whole interview.

He echoed the words of one of Crump's most unscrupulous white ward heelers—Lev Loring—president of the AFL Memphis Labor and Trades Council—who has announced that his discredited outfit will have nothing to do with arrangements for the Randolph meeting and which has passed a resolution condemning the Negro AFL leaders as "an insincere rabble rousing demagogue."

Dr. Walker's voice shook like John Rankin's when he said:

Randolph's own organization has denounced him as a demagogue, and I don't know what trouble may come up. I don't want trouble between Memphis citizens.

"When white people in the South denounce a Negro leader from the North, it may cause trouble—not that white people are always right." 3-26-44

I switched the subject to Bell. It was Dr. Walker who reputedly made the motion at a scared session of the Urban League board to fire Bell for writing an article in the "Defender's Report to the Na-" series showing how Negroes were kept out of war jobs in Memphis and of how they lived under the worst discrimination in Dixie.

"Bell was unsatisfactory to the board before the article appeared," Walker argued. "And that article might have precipitated a crisis."

Walker stoutly denied that the Crump machine had dictated the firing of Bell as stated in the later article published on January 29.

It is the considered judgment of this reporter, however, that Crump doesn't have to speak directly to the Hernando street Negro aristocracy to make them jump through the hoop. Like well-trained, white man's Negroes, they know their master's voice and they obey that voice even before it speaks.

"Bell tried to get in trouble and to get the rest of us in trouble"—the voice of Dr. Walker was emphatic but it was the voice of a vanishing past when Negroes dared not stand for human decency. "Bell doesn't work with his organization." 3-25-44

Then, at my request, Walker called in Bonner—a sullen figure who slouched in his chair, evidently hating me, evidently hating the Chicago Defender for sending down a reporter to tease the goldfish in Crump's private pond.

"Bell doesn't work with his organization," so Bonner echoed Walker. Later, I heard that the Hernando street bourbons had kept the telephones going for hours to make up some likely statements when they heard that a Defender reporter was in town.

"Mr. Preece is a white man working for a Negro paper. Get that," Walker said significantly to Bonner.

I let that cheap little race-baiting pass and asked Bonner if the statements in the January 29 article about the firing of Bell were true.

Dr. Walker's veins bulged out as he almost shouted, "Why do you keep on referring to that damn article?" 3-25-44

It was time to leave when Walker claimed that Bell had picked the fight with the white street car conductor who beat up the young Negro shortly before he lost his job.

I was sick of bourbons; I wanted to get out and meet the real people of Memphis

Advertises For White Women, Negro Women Operators Quit

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

8-9-44

MEMPHIS, Tenn—(SNS)—Speculation has been rife among Memphis Negroes for the past ten days concerning the replacing of Negro women elevator operators with white women at one of the city's leading down-town department stores.

The situation came to light Tuesday of last week, when it was learned that the eight Negro women elevator operators at Brys Department Store, Jefferson and Main Street, were not on the job.. and that the store's elevators were being operated by white women.

One of the former Negro operators stated that the first indication they had that a change would be made at the store came when one of their number called attention to an advertisement which appeared in the Commercial Appeal, Sunday, July 30 and Monday, July 31, requesting white women to apply for elevator operator jobs at Bry's.

On Monday, July 31, the Negro operators noticed several white women filling out application blanks for jobs. Nothing about an impending change in operators had been said to the Negro women. On the following Tuesday morning, some of the operators went to Mr. M. J. Hartfield, Superintendent of the store, and inquired about the newspaper advertisement. 8-9-44 The superintendent reportedly did not discuss the matter with them. They then went to a "Mr. Mack," who is directly in charge of the store's maids and elevator operators. "Mr. Mack" said he knew nothing of the advertisement for white operators being in the newspaper. The Negro operators were inclined to believe him, expressing the belief that the order came from a higher official.

Acting on their own initiative then, the Negro operators turned in their uniforms and left the job.

They could give no explanation of the advertisement's being in the paper offering their jobs to white workers. They pointed out however, that the white operators are now on the job. 8-9-44

One of the former operators stated that she undersands that the white women are receiving $15 per week, whereas the Negro operators received $12. The white workers have stools on which to sit in the cars, whereas the Negro operators had to stand.

It was also pointed out that no complaints about their work had been called to their attention by anyone connected with the store. Negro women had been operating elevators at Brys more than a year.

When asked "why the Negro operators left the job before being officially dismissed by the management," one of the former operators stated that the "group didn't see why they should stay there when it was clear that we were to be let out."

The former Negro operators at Brys include: Mrs. Margaret Withers, Mrs. Georgia Williams, Mrs. Elizabeth McDowell, Miss Gertrude Sanders, Mrs. Essie Comby, Mrs. Elnora Nettles, Mrs. Ella Egans, and Mrs. Johnnie Mae Tabb.

None of the women had obtained other jobs last Saturday it was learned. 8-9-44

When called at his office Saturday, Mr. Hartfield said that he preferred not to discuss the matter over the telephone, but that he was willing to see a reporter at his office. A time for an interview with the Brys manager was set for yesterday (Monday), when the reporter failed to see him Saturday.

The eight Negro women were given notice that their services would no longer be needed the same day that an advertisement was inserted in a daily newspaper seeking white operators and offering them $18 weekly. The store, Brys Department Store, had been paying the Negro women only $12 weekly.

In addition stools were installed in each of the elevator cars, whereas the Negro operators were forced to stand. No complaints had been called to their attention, the discharged women said. They had been working at Brys for more than a year after they had been called to fill the jobs vacated by white women who had gone to better paying jobs.

M. J. Hartfield, superintendent of the store, when approached by the women for an explanation, refused to discuss the matter with them, the ment.

Crump Stand Upheld By Memphis AFL Leader

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

3-25-44

By RICHARD SHANNON

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Like a dog answering its master's whistle, President Lev Loring of the Memphis Labor and Trades Council, AFL, spoke out for his boss, Ed Crump, against the courageous Negro AFL leader, A. Philip Randolph.

Mr. Loring also revealed that he read the Chicago Defender in a blast against the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters President published in last Thursday's issue of the Crump-controlled Memphis Press-Scimitar.

"As far as Randolph's plan to speak here is concerned," Loring said, "the first I heard of it was when I read about it in the Negro paper, the Chicago Defender. I wrote Green (meaning AFL President William Green) about it, giving our reasons for opposing the meeting, but he answered he believed we should support the meeting anyhow. The matter ended there until I saw the Associated Press report on Monday saying the meeting would be held here in April." 3-25-44

"Memphis Labor and Trades council will support any constructive labor meeting and any speaker, regardless of race," Loring claimed. "However, I know A. Philip Randolph and have heard him speak. I do not believe he would be a constructive speaker as far as race relations in Memphis are concerned.

"W econsider Randolph a rabble rouser who stirs up race trouble. He has made many speeches which are nothing but social equality of the races propaganda. He advocates throwing off restraint between the races 'immediately.'"

Meanwhile George Googe, Southern white AFL representative in Atlanta maintained tight-lipped silence. He declined to discuss the matter when called long distance in Tampa, Fla., where he is vacationing. Googe it is understood has been commissioned by AFL President William Green to make all necessary arrangements for Randolph's scheduled appearance in Memphis next month. 3-25-44

When informed that Green had announced in Washington that plans for the gathering could be learned from Googe, the Tennessee State Federation of Labor and the Memphis Labor and Trades council refused to accept any responsibility for the proposed meeting.

Among those who vigorously defended the right of Randolph to speak in Memphis were Lester Granger, executive secretary of the National Urban League. Speaking to the Chicago Defender by long dstance from Hampton institute where he lectured last Friday he said, "Any American citizen has the right at any time to discuss public questions anywhere in the country. Certainly Randolph is a distinguished spokesman of organized labor and certainly he has an important message for every American." Granger said, however, that his organization plans no action in the case of Randolph. "That it is not properly the function of the Urban League." 3-25-44

A representative of a labor defense organization, who asked that his name be withheld told the Defender that his group would gladly undertake any steps that might be required to protect Randolph's legal rights when the Negro leader comes to Memphis. The representative said, however, that he believed that any legal matters resulting from the proposed meeting would probably be handled by the AFL legal department in Washington.

In Memphis 8-19-44

Girls Replacing Whites—Chicago Negro Elevator Op.

MEMPHIS. — (ANP) — The action of the city's largest department ousted operators said. None of the placing its Negro women women have yet been able to obtain operators with white wo- other employment, it was disclosed. the question Wednesday ds of local citizens if this he first indication of the workers would face in the post-war employment adjust-

35c-1944

Texas

Texas Firm Advertises That 'White Labor' Picked Pecans

Call - Kansas City, Mo.
8-15-44

A brown corrugated box, which brought 60 pounds of pecans from Taylor, Texas, to Kansas City, has this inscription written on two sides in red letters a half-inch tall:

35C

"A Texas Product Produced By White Labor Under The Fair Standard Labor Act."

The box, 24 inches tall, came from the Taylor Pecan company in Taylor, Texas. The label on the box (on display in The Call office) shows that it was sent to the Crooks Terminal Warehouse in Kansas City.

The box was found at the City market and brought to The Call office. The Call is taking the matter up with proper authorities to have the words "white labor" removed from the box.

The Fair Labor Standards Act, popularly known as the Wage and Hour law, makes no distinction based on race or color.

Riverside Mills Agree To Bar Negro Operatives

Times-Roanoke, Va.

Back-To-Work Movement Under Way After Announcement Accepted

6-6-44

DANVILLE, June 5 (AP).—A back-to-work movement was under way here late today after 400 striking spinners at the Riverside Division of the Riverside and Dan River Cotton Mills accepted as satisfactory a company announcement it would abandon employment of negroes as spinners and doffers.

The policy was announced in a statement from Basil D. Browder, vice-president of the Riverside and Dan River Cotton Mills, which was read to the assembled spinners by Paul E. Robinson, local TWUA director.

Approve Announcement

Joining with the dissident spinning room operatives in approving Browder's announcement were many of the more than 2,000 other textile workers thrown out of work when the production of spun yarn was greatly reduced.

The union members agreed, it was stated, to co-operate with management in working out a plan for the employment of Negroes in some capacity.

Settlement of the two-weeks-old strike, which developed when Negroes were hired as operatives in spinning rooms, came suddenly this morning. Many workers left the union hall barely in time to catch the second shift.

About 50 per cent of the spinning frames were operating at the Riverside division tonight, Superintendent Russell B. Newton announced. Company and union spokesmen agreed the return to work on the second shift was "as well as could be expected on such short notice."

6-6-44

Output Reduced

Newton stated the greatly reduced output of yarn during the past two weeks had thrown the division out of balanced production. He said it would take several days to restore the balance and, therefore, peak operation cannot be attained until the balance is regained. That means, he explained, that all the nearly 2,000 idle, cannot return immediately to their looms and other processing machines.

The work stoppage, although involving the sometimes explosive issue of racial prejudice, did not occasion a single complaint to police, Chief Ural Watson said tonight. On two days small numbers of pickets stood near the mill gates and sought verbally to persuade fellow-operatives from entering the mill until a satisfactory settlement could be obtained.

35c-1944

Washington

Could Do the Job as Good as Most of Them'--But Seattle Negro Is Denied Work

Daily Worker— New York, N.Y. 1-29-44

By Ellen McGrath
(Special to the Daily Worker)

SEATTLE, Jan. 28.—"I could d as good as most of them," modest comment of J. H Negro riveter who is de- pit at the skilled work, de- critical manpower situa- here.

Taylor's was one of many com- filed by the Committee for ocratic Race Relations here James Burk, special investi- for the FEPC.

Several Negroes said that the ited States Employment Service turned them away with the d report that there were "no nings."

on Summerville who said he had years' experience in drilling and e years in caulking said the lo- n of the job was not a factor is rebuff.

would have gone anywhere," aid.

inters, riggers, riveters an enters were among the skilled men who reported they had rebuffed by the employment ce, the industrialists and the s, who had barred them from bership.

Castle, secretary of the AFL Scalers Union, and secretary of Committee for Democratic Race ions, said there would be no romise in the drive to enforce regulations here.

1-29-44

SHORTAGE SERIOUS

e situation is particularly acute because Seattle ranks among 2 leading production centers of ation.

h Gov. Arthur B. Langlie and le's Mayor William F. Devin, ran- Republican, are refus- act, Castle complained.

need for clearing away ob- production by refusing to minority groups to fully their skills is greater than efore on the eve of our su- effort in this war," Castle

President Roosevelt has said, discrimination is reflected in ss sacrifice in the lives of our on the battlefronts."

es Ryder, head of the War ower Commission here, ex- d wide-eyed astonishment at harges that the U. S. Employ- ment Service was not referring Negroes to skilled jobs.

"We send Negroes to any job for which their qualifications seem to fit them," he said, adding that "other factors" entered into the question.

What factors. 1-29-44

"Well, now, for instance," he parried, "the Negro people don't adjust to our climate readily. This is a factor in the turnover of Negro labor."

One of the most surprising statements made by Ryder, however, was not on the "weather" but the further statement that no employer here ever asks for white labor only.

He would report them if they did, he said, and there have been no reports.

Kaiser aide says Negro women weigh too much

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif. 11-6-44

SEATTLE — Fewer Negro women than white are hired in the three Kaiser shipyards because they "lack adaptability and are overweight", claimed T. Murray, a representative for the Kaiser management agency, testifying in the FEPC hearings here last week.

Under fire were hiring and upgrading policies at the three Kaiser shipyards, Oregon, Swan Island and Vancouver where 7,905 Negroes are employed.

There are proportionately less skilled and qualified Negroes than whites, according to Murray. The company hires 1,325 Negroes as tank scrapers, chippers and cleaners. On production jobs only 969 are hired and Negro welders are employed in even fewer numbers. There is only one Negro white collar worker, Clarence E. Ivey, an assistant to the personnel manager.

'White Labor' Label Discarded By Washington Packing Company

Courier- Pittsburg, Pa. 1-8-44

NEW YORK—The label, "vacuum packed by white labor," formerly carried on cans of Snow Cap Puget Sound Sockeye Salmon, has been dropped by the Fishermens Packing Company of Anacortes, Washington. A protest by the NAACP, after a housewife had purchased a can of salmon, was answered by the packing company as follows:

"We are sincere in stating that we are not prejudiced against any race, color, or creed and we feel very sorry for the incident and the mistake of our past management."

The company explained that when it took over the management of the Fishermens Packing Corporation it inherited from the former management thousands of dollars worth of labels which it could not afford to discard. The new managers declare, in their letter to the NAACP, that they have abandoned the old labels and they inclosed samples of the new labels now in use. 1-9-44

Gristede Brothers, New York chain grocers, where the can was purchased bearing the offensive label, told the NAACP their purchasing department was unaware of the inscription on the can when the salmon was ordered and that they would take up the matter with the packers.

Packing Company Drops 'White Labor' Insignia

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga. 1-9-44

Old Labels Abandoned And New Now Being Used, NAACP Is Informed

NEW YORK, N. Y.—(SNS)— The label, "vacuum packed by white labor" formerly carried on cans of Snow Cap Puget Sound Sockeye Salmon, has been dropped by the Fishermens Packing Company of Anacortes, Washington.

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NAACP Asks Action by WPB in Streeter Case

Afro American 12-9-44

WASHINGTON—(ANP)— The NAACP is pressing the War Production Board to make some disposition of George Streater, Negro aide to Joseph D. Keenan, WPB vice chairman for labor, which would end his activities reportedly have been inimical to the interest of colored people.

Walter White last week wrote Keenan that "it is now up to Mr. Streater and the WPB" to answer charges levelled against the aide by colored citizens of Seattle and Portland that he had been advocating the "ideal" of segregation on the West Coast.

35d-1944

Domestics Sacrificed to Laundry Greed by USES

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

By MABLE ALSTON

7-22-44 WASHINGTON

Thousands of domestic workers in the capital found themselves sold down the river by the U.S. Employment Service, Friday, when that agency succumbed to pressure of the Laundry and Hotel Trust and abolished the domestic service branch.

After ten years of successful operation, the unit, which has been the source of livelihood for thousands of local and immigrant women who have been dependent on it for day's work, was ordered abolished by War Manpower Commission officials.

The order created consternation among the workers and bitter resentment among employers.

"Official" Reports Conflict

An AFRO investigation, checking complaints that workers had been sent away from the local office and told that their section had been abolished, was informed by an assistant in the Area Director's office that such reports were absolutely untrue.

Ten minutes later the investigator called the USES and asked for a maid, only to be informed that the domestic service section had been abolished and that no orders were being taken for domestic help of any kind.

Was Busiest Unit

A trip to the USES office revealed that the entire domestics' section was vacant except for one interviewer, who was busy closing out the affairs of what had been one of the busiest and most successful units of the USES.

Most of the employers who have been using the facilities of this unit are either government workers or the wives of government officials, diplomats and members of Congress. 7-22-44

Many of them are dependent on maid service in their homes to retain their own jobs in the government and defense industries.

Laundry Jobs Proposed

A number of the women workers who complained to the AFRO, stated that they were offered laundry jobs by USES officials. They were told that the laundries were in dire need of workers and were urged by patriotic appeals to take laundry jobs.

A survey revealed that domestic day workers earn 50 cents per hour, carfare and lunch. For an eight-hour day, these women received just $4, with no deductions for social security or withholding taxes. 7-22-44

Whereas, the majority of laundries in this area are supposed to pay 40 cents per hour for unskilled workers, several were found to be paying only 33 cents, which, with taxes deducted, places the workers' net weekly pay at between $15 and $16.

Working Conditions Bad

Working conditions in the laundries are so notoriously bad, especially during summer months, that the rate of turnover has been tremendous, and operators have stubbornly refused to either improve conditions or raise wages.

Instead, they have concentrated on lobbying for a high priority rating which will force workers into these jobs.

A woman laundry worker has to have her hair dressed twice as much as the average worker and requires more deodorant and other toilet necessities. Her room rent and food bill are just as high.

Conditions Contrasted

The average government worker has special housing facilities, with pleasant recreation rooms, snack bars, cafeterias and maid service, and her salary is twice as much as the laundry worker's.

With laundries, hotels and cafeterias getting the highest priority rating for workers, employees agree that they should get a high rating in salary and living conditions. 7-22-44

Washington domestics earn as high as $150 per month, with room, meals and pleasant working conditions.

Turning over the domestic job field to private employment agencies means that the workers will have to pay a registration fee and have a large percentage of their weekly pay held out by the employer.

Former Atlanta Teacher Is Lauded As Red Cross Worker

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

8-16-44

Miss Alma E. Bailey Gets Many Words Of Praise From Soldiers

SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND — (ANP) — Working in the bustling city of Wellingborough, in Northampton, Miss Alma E. Bailey, a native of Columbia, S. C., but now doing her part in the war effort as an American Red Cross club director, has been getting many words of praise from Negro soldiers who have come in contact with her, and have been aided by her cool judgment in delicate situations which have come up over here in the United Kingdom. She has been more than just a "pal" to some of these men, so many miles from home in a land where their previous warm reception is gradually becoming cooler, for various reasons. 8-16-44

Many of the men she has befriended have gone across the Channel, and are now out in Normandy, or on beach-heads, but they still have the memory of this lovely personality who went out of her way to make their path smoother, while they were in her area.

Miss Bailey, though born in South Carolina spent most of her time in New York City, where she worked in music in boys clubs, in both Brooklyn and New York City; at the YMCA and also in YWCA work. In 1941 she went South where she taught social science at an Atlanta, Ga., high school, and finally volunteered for USO work.

She became the director of the Service club at Camp Gordon, Augusta, Ga., in 1942, and the end of 1943 found her "en route to a destination unknown," to use her own words. This later turned out to be England, and here she has met many of the men whom she knew at Camp Gordon.

Modestly she admits that she has never been married, and after looking at such a beautiful creature, with as much charm as Miss Bailey has, that seems mighty hard to realize. 8-16-44

But on the other hand, after observing the serious sincerity with which she regards her work, it becomes easy to understand that here is a woman who thinks in terms of service she can render, and that she has been rendering such an invaluable service to these Negro soldiers so far from home, that she just hasn't had time to think of a thing like getting married. She says this, "I enjoy my work immensely, and consider it an honor and a pleasure to serve the men at this particular time." And that's Alma E. Bailey of Columbia, S. C., definitely.

Okays Servants Living In White Neighborhoods

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

8-26-44

MEMPHIS—(ANP)—White residents have no right to protest Negro servants living in their neighborhoods, City Commissioner John Fredericks ruled here Wednesday in reply to a petition submitted by 25 white families seeking to have a Negro night watchman and his family moved from their section.

"There is no law which prevents a night watchman from residing on the premises," Commissioner Fredericks ruled. "Servants are allowed to live on the premises of their white employers, and this condition prevails in many parts of the city. In the midst of a war, with manpower shortages, it is not possible to avoid inconveniences which would not exist in normal times."

The Negro family, Mr. and Mrs. Dave Smith, moved into the exclusive white residential section two weeks ago when he accepted the job as night watchman for a nearby war plant.

Negro From Muncie Confesses Slaying Army Cadet's Bride

News — Birmingham, Ala.

10-4-44

Denies Criminal Attack But Reenacts Struggle, Tells Of Selling Clothes

MONTGOMERY, Ala.— (AP) — Worley James, a tall Negro returned here from Muncie, Ind., several weeks ago to answer two charges of attacking Negro women, has confessed the June 15 slaying of Mrs. Lynn Drew, pretty brunet wife of an Army flying cadet, according to Police Commissioner W. P. Screws.

The commissioner, reporting this new development in the case Tuesday night, declared the Negro denied that he had ravished the 23-year-old woman who came here as a bride three weeks before she was slain.

Coroner M. B. Kirkpatrick said following an examination of the body shortly after its discovery that the woman had been criminally attacked. 10-4-44

Mrs. Drew's body was found in a suburban drainage ditch. She had been stabbed through the chest and her dress and slip, ripped open from top to bottom, were found under the body, the coroner reported. He added that other garments were missing.

James, according to Screws, who is acting mayor of Montgomery, first made the confession to City Detective Sam Stearns and Sgt. James C. Keefe, of the Maxwell Field Military Police, and later repeated it in the presence of the commissioner, a minister and several others.

The commissioner said the case would be taken straight to the Grand Jury, without formal charges being placed against the Negro.

THIS IS THE NEGRO'S version of the slaying, according to Commissioner Screws: 10-4-44

He had noticed Mrs. Drew in the downtown section and had acquainted himself with her lodging place, with the idea of robbing her. On the night of the crime, he secreted himself behind some shrubbery and jumped out as she walked into the driveway.

She called for help, according to Screws' report of the Negro's story, after walking across the street with him. He told her to lower her voice.

She persisted in her efforts to attract attention, the commissioner said James related, and he slapped her, knocking her into the drainage ditch. He jumped in behind her, he was quoted as stating, and deep. as she began to scream and fight. he told her he would have to kill her unless she ceased yelling. She told him she didn't care, that she was going to keep calling for help, James related, and then he was quoted by Screws as saying: "I just said that to scare her. I just meant to stick her with the knife, but I stuck her a little too deep."

10-4-44

SCREWS SAID THAT James reenacted the crime on the ditch Thomalla, of Decatur, Ill., was the panied by officers and others in well Field. retracing the circuitous route he Among those in the accompanying and otherwise accounted for the tor Hartwell Hatton, of The Montgomery Advertiser, and Dr. Donald C. MacGuire, Presbyterian minister. Mrs. Drew, the former Ester former Camp Gordon, Augusta, Ga., and then was accom- wife of a cadet in training at Max- The Negro, according to Screws, said he took his watch in Muncie said he sold her watch in Muncie party, Screws said, were City Edi- disposal of her purse, shoes and other articles.

COLORED "MAMMY" GOING OUT AS DIXIE YELLS FOR MORE SERVANTS

Guardian — Boston — Mass.

BRITISH EMPIRE MAY SEND NATIVES

BUT ISLAND PEOPLE ARE PROUD

3-25-44

By THE ROVER

Mrs Marcus Garvey, according to a news release, has come to the United States to arrange for the transfer of 50,000 women from the British West Indies to this country for jobs as domestic servants. The news, if true, deserves comment. Why should 50,000 proud West Indian women be especially limited to domestic jobs?

"Mammy" No More

The very mention of a need to import servant class labor into this country to replace a dwindling supply of native colored domestic provides many and various juicy subjects for discussion. Moreover it allows this writer to quote from "Our Colored Missions," a splendid Catholic monthly of June 1943 presented by a friend. In this magazine, reproduced from the "Colored Harvest" is a straightforward and daring article by Rev Edward F. Murphy, SSJ who tells the truth about the domestic slave mammy. 3-25-44

"Mammy has not made herself scarce; Scarcity has unmade Mammy" writes Father Murphy. "The times are a key to her release; if not from the white kitchen and nursery, at least to a status of finer, hence more American acknowledgement in them. She has ceased being merely a chicken-frier - a crooner without a future and has discovered herself as a creature of rights and duties. . . . Mammy, in an open doorway, is sniffing fresh air. That is why she is no longer merely Mammy . . ."

Smart Little Lady

Father Murphy has an amazing understanding of his subject. He writes that "Mammy" has never been as dumb as she has been pictured. 3-25-44

"Neither she nor any of her children—whom she has somehow managed to get educated—is at all beguiled by prettily pious or piously pretty observations to the effect that colored people must have gotten their smiles from heaven, or learned their patience from Mary and their humility from Joseph. Canny in many ways, she knows such appraisers, however benignly and innocently, are lending themselves to a program of keeping her and hers 'in their place' and that 'place' which most whites have in mind for the colored race is not by their side—but under their feet."

Remember, all this is the observation of a white man and is featured in a famous Catholic magazine dedicated to colored missions but overwhelmingly subscribed to by white.

Has New Station

3-25-44

"As a cook or as a nurse," writes Father Murphy in his keen analysis of Mammy, "she is as good as, or better than, her white competitors in the same avocations; and she knows it. She is asking for less parlay and more pay. She is tired of being a mellow legend and wishes to be treated as a modern reality. Her employers can have her hands for a reasonable day's work and decent wage; but she is determined to give her own family more of her time and heart. Not Mammy—but Mother— is her new station. And her little ones with glistening eyes are shouting, "Welcome home.' "

"Today," observes the noted Catholic writer. "Mammy is becoming a fairly extinct phenomenom in Southern life. Her bandanna has long since gone with the wind, and her characteristic waddle is more in the nature of a strut . . ."

Worked For "Master"

3-25-44

"As a missionary among colored," writes Father Murphy, "I can tell of a so-called mammy having to leave her own baby for endless hours with only a lump of sugar tied in a handkerchief knot to satisfy the minimum needs. There was another too, who, after raising several white children, had to live her last days in loneliness and die without a single visit from the prosperous gentry who owed her a wealth of concern . . . it would be interesting to know what Mammy thought about having to neglect her own little ones while she lavished 'love' on golden-haired Eva or sturdy young Rhett, and just how much she sighed over the coarse food that had to go into her own brood's tummies while she fried chicken to a celestial crisp for the darlings of the privileged.

"If there is one thing that irritates thinking colored man today more than the lyncher's rope, it is the "Mammy" legend writes Rev Murphy in this dynamic article entitled, "A Legend Exists."

Why Domestics Only?

3-25-44

It now seems almost unbelievable that Mrs Garvey, widow of the late militant West Indian leader is mentioned as endorsing a move to ship 50,000 West Indian women into the domestic dogma from which so many of "mammies" seek to emerge. This alleged plan to make household servants out of another esteemed segment of the colored race certainly can not have the endorsement of thousands of West Indian males who swallowed a bitter pill only last season working here under very unfavorable conditions. Why do 50,000 West Indian women have to be specifically earmarked as domestics? Wh can't they also be stenographers, clerks, trained high skilled defense workers, the same as other imported workers can? And, is there any reason the "servant-system" need be retained in a Democracy? Why can't white mothers stay at home and raise their own? Ours do pretty well in spite of heavier burdens. Must British royalty "lend-lease" colored women of Islands in order to uphold southern aristocracy in this country? Must the "Mammy" tradition be upheld at the expense of a proud Island people who never before bowed to the yoke? What must the spirits of Toussaint L'Overture, Henry Christophe, and Antonio Maceo be thinking? It is well to ponder these questions today.

Would Keep System

3-25-44

The looming danger of this latest Anglo-American reported deal in colored labor is the fact that certain hard-heads on both sides have not surrendered their aryan-attitudes for the post war world. Certain Englishmen still see the Asiatics and other subject peoples as bowing and scraping servants. In this country we have the unreconstructed south. Father Murphy, in his aforementioned article writes, "The eyes of such Southerners as still regard the Civil War as an uncivil experiment and have not yet caught up with Pearl Harbor, grow misty with memories" of days when colored people were southern servants. 3-25-44

It would be perfectly natural for the South to play ball with the British Empire on this servant question but it is a very dangerous game for our Democracy to participate in if we intend to follow our post war proclamations. Regardless as to the sincerity of those leaders who may work in such a program or the temporary monetary advantages involved the utimlate goal of the entire servant-system is to keep the colored race "in its place." Nevertheless it may turn out that our intelligent West Indian friends are fully capable of impressing all concerned that they do not intend to uphold the "southern system." Those days, we hope, are fast disappearing forever.

35d-1944

Plain Shadow-Boxing

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga. 1-13-44

The reported organization and existence of "Disappointment Clubs" among Atlanta Negro domestics whose purpose is to "'get even" with their former white employers is, like the "Eleanor Club" rumors, wrong in assumption, wrong in fact and wrong in strategy.

The business of earning the bare necessities of life is bigger and more fundamental with Negro servants than any more grievance which they may harbor against employers "to get even." They, like Negroes in other avenues, must work, because of the need of the necessities of life. If experience has shown anything, it has shown that Negro domestics have been the most loyal and trusting friends white employers in the South can boast.

To the contrary, it may be pointed out with profit that where white employers are having difficulty with holding their Negro servants, it is due, not to any sudden change of heart toward his white employers, but to the rapidly rising cost of living, occasioned by increased standards and increased wages. Negro domestics, therefore, are forced, not by hate, but by necessity, to seek employment in those situations whereby they be able to cope with these new and increased demands. 1-13-44

Thus, to understand and to cope with these rumors, our white friends need only to seek to undermine and uproot the basis for them, which is inherent in the wages they offer and pay to Negro domestics. For the plain truth is that Negro servants are deserting the servants' quarters and the cook kitchens because they are able to find better paying jobs and at less hours, than they have been able to obtain by working at these sub standard paying jobs. It may be true that a few servants have failed to live up to ethical and honorable standards in their shift from kitchens to the factories, which is most grievous. But by and large, there can be no sound grounds upon which to base so fantastic a rumor as the organization of "Disappointment Clubs." Every move by these workers from the kitchen to the factory is one of economics rather than hate and distrust.

Reprisal For Negro Servants

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.

If the white people of the South follow up the suggestion hinted by Representative Joseph R. Bryson, Democrat of South Carolina, Negro maids and cooks had better begin now look elsewhere for employment when the war shall end the flow of present allotment checks to them. Speaking before the House of Representatives in Washington this week, Mr. Bryson complained that army allotments to dependents of Negro soldiers in the South were depriving white housewives of the "loyal services of colored servants." And for this he blamed "long-haired men and short haired women" as the real trouble makers.

"After the war I trust that these honest, hard-working Negro citizens will then resume their normal lives and that most of them will proudly slip back into their normal pursuits. Whites of the South will give them complete cooperation to this end," the Congressman warned 3-18-44

In effect, Congressman Bryson is saying that because of the good paying opportunities, made possible by the war, southern whites are finding it difficult to hold their Negro servants and that the government should cooperate with them in legislating Negro servants back into the kitchens and homes of white people, regardless to the increased pay they may be able to get in industry. He would have the draft boards empowered to conscript Negro labor, not only in the kitchens, but likewise on the farms and in other fields where they might be exploited. 3-18-44

The Congressman's suggestion explains why Negroes have had to resist the passage of the Austn-Wadsworth Bill. It explains the widespread opposition in the South to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices. It accounts for the various attempts in some southern communities to resurrect and enforce the ancient vagrancy laws. And it amply justifies the strenuous oppositon by Negroes to President Roosevelt's national Labor Draft Act, which from his standpoint, had the purest meaning and intent, but which would be used to exploit, conscript and to consign Negro workers to the lowest paid menial tasks.

As much as we would try, it is difficult to find in this "white supremacy" and " amalgamation" chatter anything more than part and parcel of the general pattern to resist the economic integration and advance of the Negro people in the life of the South. But it is altogether likely that the Negro servants will find ready and willing acceptance into the kitchens after the war. There is no one else who would accept these tasks at the prevailing wages. On the other hand, if wages are hiked in the South it would be mutually beneficial to Negroes and whites alike. For it will mean that opportunities will become better for all workers at the same time.

"She is gone but not forgotten . . ."

3-18-44

This column has been reporting instances of loyal, efficient and cheerful domestic service, illustrative of the fine art which that service can and must be made. There has been no intent, however, to offer the examples as typical. Indeed, during these war times, when so many of the most accomplished domestic servants have gone into industrial work or something else, the average of service has fallen low indeed. Some of the most worthless colored people have found it so easy to obtain domestic employment that they are giving their race very poor advertising, and making one more illustration of the fact that unless a lot of us, white and black, make much better human beings of ourselves, not all the boons of democracy and machinery and "advancement" will help us very much.

The title of this column today is: "Lines to a Departed Cook."

* * *

It was perfectly all right for you to leave. If you wanted more money than I could pay, that was my hard luck. You can get it from someone else, I am sure. If you wanted to work only part time, that was your privilege. If your husband was making such a good salary that you chose not to work at all, that was your privilege, too. If you felt that cooking was too hard, or that it was demeaning to be a servant and take orders, I admit your full right to indulge that feeling if you have the money.

* * *

It was even more than perfectly all right for you to leave if you were going to one of the big-wage jobs which wartime industry has been offering. Those jobs are winning the war. I should be willing to go hungry or do my own cooking to release you for that.

* * *

But it wasn't all right for you to be slothful, incompetent, mean-spirited, bad-mannered, wasteful, demanding and dirty while you were working for me. And it wasn't all right for you to be un-Christian and faithless in your leaving. It wasn't all right for you never to come to work when you were due and had agreed to come. It wasn't all right for you to arrive so often with a hangover that made you incapable of any real work that day and caused you to break valuable china and glass. It wasn't all right for you to steal whisky and cigarets and phonograph records. It wasn't all right for you to spend a good part of your work-time telephoning or being telephoned to. It wasn't all right for you to go around with a chip on your shoulder about your rights when you were failing so in your duties. It wasn't all right for you to ask good wages and be so bad a worker. 3-18-44

* * *

And it wasn't all right for you to disappear without a word of notice at a time when there was illness in my house. I would have given you notice. When there was sickness in your family I lent you money to pay your doctor's bill and never asked you to pay it back.

* * *

You are gone but not forgotten. You have done yourself and your class and race a great injury. Soon a time is coming when there won't be any more big money and when jobs won't be so easy to get. When that time comes the most valuable thing many of us will own will be our good names, the reputations we have with people, the friends we have made. The good jobs then are going to the ones with good records. And your record is bad. You can't hide behind your race and say it is just that white people don't treat colored people right. You are a colored person who doesn't deserve to be treated right. You can't protect yourself with your class and say that working people must stand together against employers. You are a working person who does poor work.

* * *

There are competent, loyal, honest, clean, responsible colored people. Thousands of them. You have failed them. There are working people finely worth their hire. You have given them a bad name by being not worth hiring at any price. 3-18-44

* * *

Nobody in this country is too low or high in the economic, political and social scheme to have duties to other people. Nobody is excused from being as good a human being as he or she can be. And anybody who excuses himself or herself while the war is on is going to be mighty lonesome when the war is over.

"Art is long, and Time is fleeting . . ." 1-15-44

* * *

The fine art of domestic service should be among the longest. In The Saturday Evening Post lately have appeared two articles on the subject, one from the employer's view point, one from the employee's. Together they make an impressive sum total of wrongs on both sides. After the war, when conditions will be satisfied with old some sort of balance between supply and demand in domestic service is restored, the fine art of the arrogance, incompetence, cupidity on the part of wartimes and who have had a taste of better pay and learned in many instances to get much the sum total of human

That there will go on being domestic service is certain. Not all the labor-saving gadgets will eliminate it. Indeed, labor-saving machines may lessen so much the sum total of human

are going to insist on much improvement, too.

* * *

What is even more to the point, householders who have up with shiftlessness, servants and bad faith on

labor demanded for industrial and agricultural tasks that there will be a tendency to look for new fields of labor and to elaborate old ones like domestic service. The servant will be "protected," no doubt, by some sort of organization, and his work will go up several notches in the social scale, have a dignity beyond anything attaching to it now.

* * *

But, at the same time, it will have to be work better done by better people. It will have to be done, too, by people who, in perfect self-respect, understand that subordination is part of the job. And part of the fine art. One of the things that will be paid for will be this subordination, this ability to be a true and sensitive servant with heart and mind given to those for whom the work is done, with a personality pleasing to them, faithfulness on which they can count. And, of course, there is going to have to be a lot more competence in the actual work, too. For good pay there must be ability in the tasks involved. Today the range in quality of domestic servants who expect a given wage is monstrous. Some are worth double the wage, but many others are not worth half of it or any wage at all. They are total incompetents both in work and personality. Domestic service is too intimate and important a responsibility to be entrusted to them. 1-13-44

* * *

In the domestic service of the future, as I am sure it must be, there may be employe organizations but the day-to-day relationship can never be what it is in a factory or a commercial organization. Domestic employers and employes are people living together in the same home, in moment-to-moment encounter, living a part of their most intimate lives together. They need to treat each other more fairly than any other employers and employes do but it can never be the fairness of a union rule or a managerial order.

* * *

As for those who look on their domestic service as demeaning and think servants and masters should deal with each other as equals, they might as well go into some other field. The point of domestic service is serving. That means being subordinate, taking orders. A private in the army is not demeaned by orders from his lieutenant. His job as a private involves orders, and the better he takes them, in spirit and deed, the better soldier he is. In the fine art that must be made of domestic service in days to come, the knack of being masterfully subordinate and obliging is going to be one of the most self-respecting parts of the job. 1-15-44

You just simply can't be a successful domestic servant with a race or class chip on your shoulder. It makes things too unpleasant around the house.

Valet Gets $100 Bill For Finding $2,905

Courier-Journal
Louisville, Ky.

Hotel Guest Pays Reward

4-28-44

Honesty paid off—with a crisp $100 bill—yesterday for James W. Lindsey of 1720 W. Walnut, 58-year-old Negro valet at Kentucky Hotel, after he returned $2,905 in large (very large) bills found in a guest's coat pocket.

The guest, who preferred to remain anonymous, peeled a $100 bill off the top of the roll and directed W. Henry George, assistant manager, to present it to the valet as a reward.

Lindsey said he found the money when he was pressing the coat. Explaining that on other occasions he had found "maybe $85 or $90, but nothing like this," Lindsey declared: "I just figured that was his money. I just couldn't look him in the eye and lie about it."

"The reward is going to my wife," Lindsey asserted. "She's my treasurer. I'm putting it away for my retirement fund."

Lindsey came to Louisville from Paducah, Ky., twenty years ago and has been employed at the Kentucky since 1936.

JAMES W. LINDSEY
Did a $100 pressing job

Ky. Measure Aimed to Aid Domestics

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md. 2-12-44

FRANKFORT, Ky. — (ANP) — A measure, which would make it unlawful to employ a domestic servant for less than $14 per week and which would limit her hours daily, was introduced in the Kentucky legislature last week by Charles W. Anderson, Jr., of Louisville, only colored member.

The bill would amend the 1938 minimum wage and hour law for women and minors so that it would cover domestics and farm workers. In placing the bill in the legislative hopper, Mr. Anderson pointed out that most domestic servants in Kentucky now average $5 and $7 per week and are forced to work from 5:30 and 6 o'clock in the morning until 7:30 or 8 o'clock at night.

Domestic Help Shortage

The Herald - Birmingham, Ala.

Many thousands of housewives would be glad to comply with the War Manpower Commission's request to share their domestic help with women war workers, who lose time from their jobs because they can't get anybody to look after their homes and children. But the chief trouble is that housewives are having a tough time getting domestic help on any basis. Even house-workers by the day are hard to come by. 7-13-44

If the WMC would devote some of its gigantic brain power to figuring out ways to increase the supply of domestic help there would be more point to its plea that such help be shared with war workers.—Jackson Daily News.

USES Shields Thieves In Domestic Service

World-Telegram - New York, N. Y.

(Copyright by the Washington Daily News.)

WASHINGTON, June 17.—The United States Employment Service local office here is so cloaking thieving household and restaurant employees with bureaucratic protection that police have been defeated in attempts to bring the guilty fugitives to justice.

The USES office has refused to give the U. S. Attorney's office and the grand jury information which would enable fugitives to be located. 6-17-44

Even Congressmen have been victimized. Meantime, USES apparently has sent the same guilty clients back to prey on other unsuspecting employers who believed that a clearance from USES was tantamount to a certificate of good character.

At USES headquarters and in War Manpower Commission documents, not intended for public consumption, it was stated that the organization would not give police information to help them locate employees it had sent out and who proved dishonest.

Like an Accessory.

"USES is doing what we would call in law being an accessory after the fact in that they are helping conceal the crime," declared Representative Smith (D., Va.).

Police Chief H. L. Woodyard of Arlington, Va., a Washington suburb, disclosed that in one Arlington apartment a Negro woman, supplied by USES as a maid, stole clothing and jewelry worth about $300 from two different families.

Police Chief Woodward said, "This department has endeavored through the U. S. Employment Agency to secure the address of this woman, but has been unsuccessful.

"The officers have used every method available to them . . . and are told that under the law they (the USES officials) are prohibited from giving such information."

Congressman Victimized.

Congressional investigators also made repeated attempts to get the information needed by the police. All they could get, however, were copies of USES regulations setting forth that information given by a client concerning his or her residence was confidential and must not be divulged.

District police said there have been "four or five" similar cases here in the last year. In each case USES refused pertinent information and police, thus stymied, have been unable to arrest the suspect. 6-17-44

It was also disclosed that a Congressman, after hiring a new maid, found some silverware missing and called the agency demanding he be told where the girl lived. He was turned down.

At the same time it was revealed information has also been refused the District Attorney's office, and clerks of the grand jury said they had also been denied USES information needed in preparing indictments in some thievery cases.

Another Domestic Servant Rumor Floats Around

Weekly Review
Birmingham, Ala.
3-11-44

Domestic service is a sore spot that just won't be cured. When Negro cooks or maids are late or absent from their jobs, promise to come and fail to arrive, irritation follows. Housewives and their husbands complain to others who have had the same trouble or have friends who have — and another "domestic servant" rumor is born. The first one which spread like a grassfire took the FBI and a citizen army to put out. The "Eleanor Club' 'myth will go down in the history of our home front was as the most absurd of all time. Riots and violence threatened as by products before it was killed.

Then six months later in a mid-western city the story got about that "Negro Maids were enthusiastic members of "Push 'Em" clubs whose only duties were to appear in designated areas down town on certain days and put forth muscular efforts in around white folks. The FBI went into action and in a relatively short time, the myth of the "Push 'Em Club" was exploded. The latest one cropped up in January of this year. A Methodist preacher of Atlanta, Georgia, told his congregation that failure of Negro maids to come to work was not accidental. They belonged to a "Disappointment Club' 'the object of which was to promise to come and work and be on hand to cook breakfast, and then deliberately fail to appear, just to disappoint the madam. He had this information from a reliable source — one who had been so treated — so he claimed. 3-11-44

The "Eleanor Club" myth was something new and spectacular and ridiculous; that of the "Push 'Em Club" was colorful, diverting and understandable. But the "Disappointment Club" is an old, old story in the South where white women for generations have known the ways of cooks, maids and washerwemen. Failure to come some mornings has been the only protective course overworked Negro domestic servants could adopt to get a few extra hours for fun or family needs. White women rarely believe the excuse of sickness which is almost uniformly given as the reason for absence; the servants do not expect them to believe it; but external relations are kept on an amicable basis through a diplomatic acceptance of the situation. Probably the myth of the "Disappointment Club" grows out of the failure on both sides to observe the rules of diplomacy. — Southern Frontier 3-11-44

35d-1944 New York

From the Readers

PM - New York, N.Y.

Job Discrimination

Dear Editor: 3-10-44

I enjoyed reading the press release on Mr. Charles C. Berkley's efforts to end discriminatory practices. Mr. Berkley has done an admirable job since he has been directing the New York State Committee on Discrimination in Employment.

His Committee through its easy and friendly efforts with employers has opened many doors of opportunity for the Negro race and I know that those employers have been more than satisfied with the Negro workers, because I have supplied them with some of their workeers through the Brooklyn Urban League.

I feel that no greater honor could be paid to Mr. Berkley's organization than to have the "pattern which it has set, followed through and expanded upon in the postwar world." 3-10-44

THERESA G. PARKER
Asistant Industrial Secretary
Brooklyn Urban League
Brooklyn

35d-1944

What Can Be Done About Domestic Employment?

Southern Frontier — Atlanta, Ga.

By GRACE TOWNS HAMILTON

Executive Secretary, Atlanta Urban League

Effects of The War

The past few years have been a time of crisis for both the employer of domestic help and for the household worker. The crisis has created "tensions," which like the early symptoms of a nervous breakdown, may have the advantage, if thoughtfully regarded, of preventing disaster—or the disadvantage, if ignored, of accumulating until a real breakdown becomes inevitable. The "Eleanor Club," the "Push-'em Club," the "wait-'till-the-war-is-over-we'll-fix-'em" reports are symptoms of an unhealthy condition about which something needs to be done and about which something can be done, if the patients, in this case the household workers, the employers, and the community, are willing.

Mamie the maid who became Minnie the welder says that the shorter hours and the better wages pulled her out of the home and into the factory. However, she and her sister workers have recently become acquainted with and accustomed to social security, health insurance, and protective legislation. Their first experience as union members in the war jobs to which they have gone has made concrete for them the advantages which come from cooperative efforts of employees to bargain for improvement in conditions of work. The same experience has also made increasingly clear the necessity for cooperative planning by employees and employers in order that the interests of both may be protected.

Meanwhile, the war period has stimulated the development of cooperative projects among housewives for the care of children and for cleaning services. These efforts have had the tendency to point out to them the importance of organization in the routine of housework. Increased appreciation of each other's needs by the maid and the mistress make possible mutually satisfactory adjustments.

Basic Needs

Finding the answer to what can be done about household employment is important planning for the home front which need not wait for the post-war period. Five needs constitute a basis for efforts to solve the problem:

1. The need for trained household workers, which can be met only by the establishment and support of proper training facilities.

2. The need to make conditions of employment in household work more comparable with other types of work.

3. The need to remove the social stigma so that the difficulties for the group already engaged in the occupation will be corrected, and so that capable women will be attracted to it.

4. The need to develop new standards and techniques of placement, which will provide the employer with the kind and amount of service for which she is willing and able to pay, and which will protect the employee from substandard assignments which destroy the advantages to the employer and the employee of any program for improvement.

5. The need for education of the public in order to make clear to housewives that it is to their personal advantage to raise the status of this almost feudal vocation of domestic service to the level of modern industry.

Education of the community at large can make clear that more adequate wages paid to one of the largest occupational groups in our country will be of vital importance in increasing the purchasing power of a large number of workers, thus making effective an increased demand for goods. Wage adjustment in this occupation is an infrequently mentioned but nevertheless important factor in conquering the threat of a post-war depression by making possible full employment after the war.

Community Approach

Community understanding is essential if resources for proper training and placement are to be made available, and if the hours and wages for the occupation are to be adjusted in the direction of acceptable standards.

Since the amount which can be spent for service is determined by the family budget, many women with a need for help, but with a limited amount to spend, have used their limited funds to buy inferior services at substandard wages. Organized efforts on the part of the community as a whole will provide new resources for the families with limited financial resources and will help such women learn how to spend wisely the amounts they have, to buy the services they need most, without undermining standards. It should be recognized that in this field, as in most others, the employer seldom gets more than she is willing to pay for.

As in any other maladjusted social situation for which a community-wide solution is sought, genuinely representative groups of the people most concerned must consider together programs for improvement. Local groups must take responsibility for local situations. Facts must be found, and a plan of action based upon the facts must be determined.

The American Association of University Women, the National Y. W. C. A., and the National Committee on Household Employment have pioneered in work upon this problem. In the last two years two strong unions of household workers have been chartered. It is evident from reports of all efforts to improve the situation that consideration of standards is essential.

In order to get facts and to consider acceptable standards, household workers and their employers must find channels to work together cooperatively for their mutual interest. In the Southern region, where the members of these two groups recognize their interdependence and are accustomed to everyday relationships, there should be great possibilities for getting together to "do something" in the interest of each other.

Proposed Standards

As a basis for knowing what domestic employees expect, the following statement of standards, approved by a widely represented group of workers, is interesting:

We believe that housework is a dignified occupation. The relationship of the employer and employee is entered into for the mutual economic advantage of both, the employee offering her skill in return for wages, the employer offering wages in return for skill. Social relationships, which result from face to face contacts, should not hide this fundamental economic relationship in which bargaining is taking place.

The relationship should be at all times professional, neither party asking favors nor exploiting the other. The independent relationship will be aided if the employee lives out and has a home life of her own. If she wishes to do this, her wish should be respected and given consideration. Whether the employee lives in or out, her private life should be free from supervision by the employer.

A. *Working agreement*

A definite written agreement between employer and employee should be made at the time of employment. It may be signed or unsigned and should be subject to periodic review to meet changing conditions.

B. *Regular duties*

Regular duties shall be clearly defined, based on an analysis of the job to be done within the hour limit agreed upon. A high standard of work shall be expected in return for good wages and satisfactory working conditions.

C. *Trial period*

After the first interview, the work should begin with a trial period of two weeks, after which time either the employer or employee should feel free to end the relationship if it has proved unsatisfactory.

D. *Hours*

Actual working hours shall be defined as hours of duty during which the worker is not free to follow her own pursuits.

Total working hours shall not exceed 60 hours within the week. A schedule of 48 hours is recommended.

Time on call is that time when the worker is not free to leave house, but may rest or follow her own pursuits, being available for emergencies. Two hours on call shall be equivalent to one hour of working time. Overtime may be adjusted by extra time off or extra payment on rate per hour basis. Frequent overtime should be avoided.

Time off shall include one full day (Sunday, if the employee so wishes) and one half day. At least one other evening shall be free.

E. *Vacations and holidays*

After one year of service the employee should have two weeks' vacation with pay. The employee should be given four of the following holidays: Easter, Decoration Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, Labor Day, Mother's Day.

F. *Termination of services*

Notice of one week or one week's pay shall be given on termination of service by either party.

G. *Living conditions*

Comfortable living conditions include: 1) adequate food, 2) private room, or one shared by another employee if necessary, 3) access to bath, 4) adequate heat and light, 5) a place to entertain friends.

H. *Health examination*

An employee should possess a certificate showing that she has had a health examination within a year. The employee shall pay for the examination, except that when she remains for more than six months, the employer shall reimburse her for half the cost of the examination.

I. *Wages*

For living-in employees, minimum wages for the inexperienced should be $12 a week, for experienced $15.

For employees living out, minimum wages for the inexperienced should by 25c an hour; for the experienced according to the following schedule: 50c an hour for 3 hours or less, 40c an hour from 3 to 30 hours a week, 30c an hour for more than 30 hours a week.

The rates should be revised as costs of living change. They may be varied in accordance with conditions in different types of communities.

Two significant statements deserve the thoughtful consideration of those who decide that something must and can be done about the problem of domestic help:

From the inescapable fact that domestic employment is a human relationship and not a totally economic one arise most of the problems connected with it. From an acceptance of that fact arise certain possibilities of understanding and improving the relations.

Only one-half of the labor problem can be solved by wage and hour adjustment, the remainder lies in human relationships and the

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Cotton Fields Substitution—Atlanta, Ga. Lure Servants

SANDERSVILLE, Ga., Sept. 4. One of the cooks was heard to remark as she climbed into a truck shortly after daylight this year, that more than 200 domestic servants had left their jobs to pick cotton at $1 per hundred pounds, picking cotton, or two to three times the amount paid them for that pan I totes out of de kitchen and nurses, always expected by cooking or

The servant problem has become a serious with housewives in this city. A survey today disclosed The pay of cooks ranges from to be carried to the cotton fields to $6 per week. A steady picker will make $2 per day cotton, and that is one

The white members of the other party became alarmed and, for the first time in the his-

housewives, will be of short duration, due to the small crop.

ton each year, but dare is one thing I shore do miss, and that is each day."

Cotton pickers furnish their own feed.

N.Y. Rally Fights Job Bias

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

NEW YORK—An all-out drive by Greater New York and northern New Jersey branches of the CIO United Federal Workers to keep racial and religious discrimination out of war ad post-war employment will be launched at a "Job Rights" rally on Wednesday evening, Sept. 13.

Edward Lawson, regional director of the Fair Employment Practices committee, Douglas MacMahon, international secretary-treasurer of the CIO Transport Workers Union, and Charles Collins, chairman of the Negro Labor Victory committee will head the list of speakers. The rally will be held at the Abyssinian Baptist church.

Other speakers will be Rabbi Edward Klein of the American Jewish Congress, Max Zaritsky of the National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism and Ferruci Marini of the Italian newspaper, L'Unita del Populo. 9-16-44

The speakers will talk on subjects "that vitally concern everyone whose race, religion or national origin might interfere with their getting the war or post-war job they deserve," according to John Harmon, chairman of the union's Regional Racial Unity committee.

Only 51% Think Negroes Should Be Given Chance

Daily World—Atlanta Ga. 10-22-44

Ability Should Be Determinant, Say 43 Per Cent

DENVER, — (S N S) — A bare majority of white Americans are willing to see Negroes have the same kind of jobs they themselves have, while 43 per cent would be willing to have Negroes with better training occupy a higher position, according to survey results released Saturday by the National Opinion Research Center, University of Denver.

NORC interviewers asked this question of a representative cross-section of white Americans:

"If a Negro with the same training had the same kind of job as you at the place where you worked, would it be all right with you, or wouldn't you like it?"

All right	51%
Qualified Answer	3
Wouldn't like it	43
Don't Know	3
	100%

ASKED SECOND QUERY

The 51% who answered "all right" were then asked: "If a Negro with more training had a better job than you at the place where you worked, would it be all right with you, or wouldn't you like it?" Three per cent have no opinion on this question, 7 per cent object to the idea, and 1 per cent qualify their answers, leaving 43 PER CENT WILLING TO SEE A NEGRO GET A BETTER JOB THAN A WHITE WORKER. 10-22-44

There is a high degree of consistency among white Americans on this question of equal opportunities to get jobs. NORC asked a third question to measure the attitude toward the general problem: "Do you think Negroes should have as good a chance as whites for any kind of job, or should whites have first chance?"

Negroes should have equal chance	42%
Whites should have first chance	52
Undecided	6
	100%

Comparison of responses shows that of all those white Americans willing to give Negroes an equal chance to get jobs, 79 percent are consistent and say they would not object to giving a Negro equal opportunities at their own place of work.

SECTIONAL DIFFERENCES

The greatest differences of opinion are sectional — which is not unusual with questions involving the Negro problem. This is the comparison of opinions expressed by residents of different sections:

Would NOT mind Negro working with them at the same job —	
New England and Middle Atlantic states	65%
Mountain and Pacific states	59
Midwest	53
South	25
Would give Negroes an equal chance at jobs —	
New England and Middle Atlantic states	58%
Mountain and Pacific states	47
Midwest	42
South	19

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

Of the 51 per cent who think IT IS ALL RIGHT TO HAVE A NEGRO WORK WITH THEM, many mention personal experiences as the basis for their opinion. "I would like it. I've worked with some Negroes that were O. K." is the comment of an engineer, in East Chicago, Indiana. A street-car motorman in Chicago puts it this way: "I've worked with a lot of Negroes and it's all right." 10-22-44

Other respondents think that it is only fair to let a Negro work at the same jobs that white people have. "If my ability was no more, I don't see why I should object," is the opinion of a North Carolina real estate salesman. A radio announcer in San Francisco believes that it would be all right: "That's where race prejudices come in. Negroes are fighting side by side with us."

A somewhat smaller group of white Americans are willing to let Negroes work in higher jobs than whites. Comments show that this willingness exists among many different groups in the United States. . . . If the Negro knows more than me it would be all right. I'm not jealous. . . . If the Negro could hold a better job, I think he should have it. . . . After all, if he's more capable to do the job than I am, that's only fair." 10-22-44

NO, SAY SOME

On the other hand, a very substantial minority do not like the idea of a Negro working with them. Individual comments are generally quite hostile to the Negro. A trucker in Phoenix, Arizona, says: 'In my dealings, I've learned to distrust Negroes. They like fighting and DIRTY fighting." A car dealer in northern Colorado states: "I don't care to work with them. Negroes are inclined to be lazy." A railroad brakeman in Lorain, Ohio, remarks: "I quit the shipyards because they put on a colored welder." 10-22-44

There are some respondents who are willing to work side by side with a Negro, but who do not want Negroes in superior positions. Comments in this category mention a wide variety of reasons: "I'm just a born Southerner, and I just instinctively wouldn't like it . . . I can't see myself working under a n---- . . . It will take us a long time to be educated to that."

SHOULD HAVE EQUAL CHANCES

White Americans who feel that whites should have first chance at jobs outnumber those who feel that Negroes should have an equal opportunity to get jobs, but the latter are a very vocal minority. Comments reveal that this belief in equality is largely based on the belief that human beings are all basicaly alike. A wire worker in Belleville, New Jersey, believes: "We're all human — we're all equal." A similar sentiment is expressed by a war worker in Bird-in-Hand, Pennsylvania: "We are all created equal." 10-22-44

Other respondents qualify their statements by demanding EQUAL ABILITY. The comment of a woman service worker in Brooklyn is typical: "If Negroes have ability they should have jobs the same as white persons."

Most of those who feel that whites should have first chance at jobs feel either that the white race is inherently superior or that whites have some attributes that qualify them better to take on jobs — more education, more intelligence, more dependability. There are others who feel that the Negro is not yet ready for the equal relationship of sharing in jobs, or that whites do not accept Negroes so readily, but the first group is in the majority.

Thus, comments run the gamut from "I just don't care for Negroes" though "White people are more ambitious and better educated" to "As long as Negroes face the public they have too much prejudice to face." 10-22-44

This scientific survey by the National Opinion Research Center sampled a typical miniature of the white population of the United States with the proper proportion — in each geographical section — of rich and poor, young and old, men and women, and residents urban, town, and rural areas.

The Future Of Domestic Workers

Journal & Guide Norfolk Va.

BEFORE the war a majority of Negro workers in the South were engaged in domestic work and agriculture. *Domestic work* included a wide variety of jobs, sometimes referred to as *service occupations*. There were many service jobs in stores, laundries, restaurants, hotels and homes that were vacated by the demand for workers in defense industries, and to take the place of workers in factories and shops that were drawn out of these places into the armed service, or into defense industries. 11-25-44

The bottom dropped out of *domestic work*. Always the lowest paid labor, those engaged in it were glad to get a better opportunity to earn more. The opportunity was eagerly grasped, and many went out burning the bridges behind them. They took little heed of the day when the war would end and thousands would have to return to domestic work.

As a result of this period of temporary prosperity for the domestic workers some changes have taken place. Many people who formerly hired workers to perform certain tasks in their homes have learned how to do this work themselves, and have learned to like it. They now have no particular desire to reemploy their former domestic help. Sensing the opportunity in this for greater exploitation of labor-saving devices manufacturers have had their engineers perfecting all kinds of gadgets which will perform housework in response to the touch of an electric button.

That is the competition that confronts the domestic workers of the future. How will they meet it? They will not meet it unless they are able to convince people that there is no mechanical substitute for intelligent, capable, courteous, heart-warming personal service.

There are people who will prefer to have agreeable personalities handle their improved household gadgets than to handle these gadgets themselves. The stupid, repelling, repugnant domestic worker has no future. There will be a market for the intelligent, inviting and gracious people who start now learning the necessary art of placing domestic work on a higher level than it has heretofore attained. To these people there will be spiritual and financial rewards. 11-25-44

35d-1944

"Land of The Noble Free"

New York Age

By LAYLE LANE N.Y., N.Y.

ADOLESCENTS of a generation ago fed on the Ladies Home Journal and Woman's Home Companion for their inspiration to be the well-dressed lady, for their lessons in beauty culture and for the twentieth century edition of Cinderella romancing. There were ads galore too, which, for a penny post card, would supply one with samples of cold creams, soap, tooth paste and mail for the next six months.

Mothers, also looked to the magazines for more practical aid in making clothing, for new recipes and for the latest news of labor saving devices. In rural areas where libraries were scarce the stores made up for the lack of books. Today the magazines are carrying on still and providing the housewife with ever widening horizons.

This year the Woman's Home Companion is 71 years old. It was founded in Cleveland, Ohio in 1873 as The Home Companion. Then it was printed bi-monthly. After ten years it moved to Springfield, Ohio, where it's still printed. In 1897, the paper changed its name to the Woman's Home Companion and became a monthly magazine.

12-2-44

The publishers aim, they state, to "keep constantly in mind the housewife of today." "She is not the woman who wants to do more housework, but the woman who wants to do less housework, so that she will have time for other things."

"She is intelligent and clear headed; we must tell her the truth. She is busy; we must not waste her time. She is forever seeking new ideas; we must keep her in touch with the best. Her horizon is ever extending. her interests broadening. The pages of the Woman's Home Companion must reflect the sanest and most constructive thought on the vital issues of the day."

One of the vital issues of the day is the question of human relations on which the Companion could certainly attempt to give the most constructive thought. Its publisher, Thomas Beck, who is also one of the Board of Directors of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, may be responsible for carrying on the same policy with the Companion as he does on the Metropolitan — namely ignoring the existence of 13,000,000 Negroes — as well as their aims and aspirations.

There are hundreds of Negro readers of the Companion who can certainly make the magazine, its editors and its publishers know what Negro women are thinking. They can also make them aware of the fact that Negro women do read the Companion and want to find some of their interests reflected there. Much of this is so already, for we like fashions, recipes, romance and glamor as other women do. We like vital issues also and none means so much to us as the improvement in race relations.

There is no closer field of human contact than the home and it is here that hundreds of Negro women as domestic workers come in very intimate association with their white neighbors. There is no field, either, where so much can be done in the little things that make up everyday living together.

Some of the immediate changes which can be instituted are: First, to recognize the worker as an adult worthy of respect. There should be no more Mary or Susie, but Mrs. Davis or Miss Jackson. Again children should not be allowed to treat adults as their inferiors or neglect to give them the same consideration as they would their teacher, doctor, minister, or store keeper. The attitude of children is a source of great irritation and ill-feeling; and where there is a difference of race this is heightened to a tense degree.

Another essential is the establishment of standard hours, and duties for the worker as well as standards of competence. For the employer too there should be required references on standards of living conditions, consideration, and honesty.

Housewives have an opportunity to know intimately the lives of those who work for them. Employees have an unparalleled chance to be ambassadors of better understanding.

A woman's magazine such as the Woman's Home Companion can start in a field which touches the home and thereby many, many persons. Its Negro readers can supply the incentive for concern about the vital issue of race relations. Making some dent in the home field may help, perhaps in making a dent on the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company, one of whose directors is also publisher of the Woman's Home Companion.

A MAID STORY

Long Island Hostess Does Laborious Tasks While Maid Just "Sits"

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

By HORACE R. CAYTON

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

THIS is a story about the problem of domestic help. What significance it has, I don't know. You can best judge that for yourself after you have read it. It began in New York last week when my publisher suggested that I go down on Long Island Sound and finish up some work I had to do. He arranged for me to stay at the beach house of a prominent New York physician. So I left New York for two weeks of bathing, sailing, hiking and incidentally to do some work. I arrived after a tiresome trip at a beautiful three-story house, located just a few hundred feet from the Sound and was greeted by my hostess and her delightful family of four children. Everyone called everyone by their first names and within an hour I was accepted as a member of the family.

9-2-44

Mr. Cayton

I didn't meet Dolly until late that afternoon when I went into the kitchen after a swim for a glass of water. Then Stella, my hostess, introduced me to the maid.

"Horace, this is Dolly," she said.

STELLA MOPS, DOLLY SEWS 9-2-44

I was a little taken back. I always call my housekeeper by her full, formal and complete name and she does the same to me. But not so with my liberal friends—everyone, even the Madame, was addressed by their front name.

BUT that wasn't all that struck me as curious about the situation. I had noticed when I went into the kitchen, that Stella, my hostess, was mopping the floor. Then I observed that Dolly, the maid, was sewing. That got me. I just didn't understand. Now don't get me wrong. I am for the working class and especially if they are colored, and this maid was very much colored, indeed. But I just couldn't understand why the maid would be sewing and the Madame mopping the floor. Finally I got Stella by herself to ask her.

MAIDS ARE SCARCE

"I hope you don't think I am too forward, but I don't understand why you were mopping the floor and Dolly was sitting sewing," I asked.

"Oh," replied Stella, "she was keeping me company."

This answer still left me in the dark.

9-2-44

"But let me put it bluntly," I pressed, "why weren't you doing fancy work and she mopping the floor?"

"Dont' be silly, Horace," my hostess replied, "you can't hire anyone to mop floors now. At least Dolly said that she would be willing to help if it were not that it hurt her back. That's more than any of the maids along the beach would say."

I LEFT Stella a little confused. In a way I thought it was all right. Why not divide up the work and everyone began my housekeeper would not get such advanced ideas. It would be inconvenient to say the least.

EVERYONE HELPS BUT THE MAID

That night we ate dinner on the large porch overlooking the Sound. It was a jolly meal, all of us telling jokes and singing over our coffee and cigarettes. Finally the group broke up and everyone began to mop floors now. At least Dolly said that she would be willing to help if it were not that it hurt her back. That's more than any of the maids along the beach would say."

I LEFT Stella a little confused. In a way I thought it was all right. Why not divide up the work and everyone began

35e-1944

Puerto Ricans Air Complaint Against B&O

They Demand An Send Them Home

A group of about 2t workers who were part of 1046 Puerto Ricans brought to Maryland to work as track laborers on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad are demanding that the railroad return them to Puerto Rico at once. Meeting yesterday with Col. Louis Ramirez Drau, former chief of insular police in Puerto Rico and now head of the Puerto Rico Commerce and Industry Assn., the 28 declared they quit their jobs with the B&O because they were poorly fed ill housed and were left almost penniless by deductions." 12-28-45

One Man's Story

The Puerto Ricans were recruited in Puerto Rico by the war manpower commission and signed contracts under the terms of which they would be paid 6 cents an hour for an eight-hour day with six days' work a week guaranteed. Deductions were to be made for their transportation from Puerto Rico here, for money to be sent their dependents while they worked, for food, clothing and medical care. But, they charged, the food they got was poor and they did not get proper medical care.

One worker, Justiniano Santiago Figueroa, said that during one two-week period his gross earnings were $78.84 but when deductions for his dependents withholding tax, payments on transportation and board were made he got $12.05 in cash for his two weeks' labor.

Several declared that the cook in the camp where they worked in Maryland treated meat intended for them for beer and fed them 'slops."

B&O's Position

If the railroad refuses to return them to Puerto Rico, Col. Drau said, suits will be filed to compel the road to observe the conditions of the contract.

Robert A. Van Sant, publicity man for the B&O in Baltimore, said the railroad's experience with the Puerto Rican workers had been "very disappointing" and that all but six of the 1046 brought had quit. Many of them had been returned to their homes in Puerto Rico, he added. However, he continued, the contracts between the workers and road provided they work at least six months and the road felt those who quit before they worked six months were not entitled to transportation at the expense of the road. He insisted the Puerto Ricans had received the same food, pay and treatment given other track laborers.

Mexican workers brought to this country to work on railroads and in other industries have the protection of inspectors from the Mexican Labor Ministry who look over their living quarters, receive and adjust their complaints. The Mexicans are brought here under agreements directly between the U. S. and Mexican Governments while the Puerto Ricans work under individual contracts between the workers and their employers.

...Daily News, New York, N. Y. 12-28-44

...West Indies Aid In Ore. Harvesting

...Labor, D. C. ---, ---, ---,

West Indian Workers, Riled Over Treatment Here, Return Home

Chicago Defender — Ill.
12-23-44

Scores of British West Indians who came to America with high hopes of helping their American ally in the home front production line, have returned to their island countries, embittered, disillusioned and heartsore.

Still others who remain here, herded together like so many cattle in lodgings that seem worse than Bowery "flop-houses," are counting the days until their one-year contracts expire so that they, too, may join the exodus to the Caribbeans.

Brought to the United States last June to relieve the farm help shortage and promised high wages and comfortable surroundings, more than 300 natives of Jamaica and Barbados came to Chicago when harvest season was over to work as unskilled laborers in several manufacturing firms here.

It wasn't so much the fact that the wages didn't seem to go as far as they sounded or looked in the paper, nor did the cold weather bother our brothers from the Tropics too very much. But the War Manpower Commission's contract with their employers provided that the men be furnished adequate lodgings—and from the appearance of the place where they're now housed, somebody needs to learn the definition of "adequate."

A building at 2637 Prairie avenue owned by one Seymour Goodman, attorney who contracted with employers of the Barbadians to house them, at one time was used for more than 300 men. In some rooms in the 12-room building as many as 30 men slept in one room in double-decker beds.

Only one small bath-room was available for use at the Prairie establishment; during the four months that the men have lived there no clean linen has once been issued. There are no reception rooms, no recreational facilities available. And for all these princely privileges the men were forced to pay $3.50 a week.

When complaints brought the OPA on the scene and Goodman was ordered to reduce the rent to $2.50 a week, he also reduced the amount of heat in the building, and to persons used to warmer climates, lack of heat is an invitation to pneumonia.

Bruce Lythcott, 23, a smooth-shaven, soft-spoken, intelligent young Barbadian who is employed at the Libby, McNeil and Libby company, is one of those who still remains in Chicago despite the disappointments he's encountered.

"I've always been desirous of seeing America," he says ruefully. "But I didn't think we'd have to live quite like this. I hope there's someone who can do something to make things better."

130 Sleeping In One Room

At still another "hostelry" at 6158 Cottage Grove avenue, 130 Jamaicans occupy a huge barracks-like room provided by the Corn Products company of Argo, Ill. Upstairs in a smaller room 50 Barbadians are accommodated. The employer deducts $3.25 a week from each man's wages and unless he can find lodging in Argo he has no choice but to remain where he is.

Some half-hearted attempts have been made at this place to provide recreation for the men, but there is no space for hanging their clothing, the "barracks" are unventilated and the men are not permitted to cook on the premises.

Simon Atkins, a 35-year-old father of six children whom he left in Jamaica, said he's a bit pleased with conditions in Chicago. He explained that $15 of his $30 a week wages are sent to his family in the Islands. Having to pay $1.60 a week for transportation to Argo and back, $3.25 for housing leaves his $10 a week for food. And restaurants on Cottage Grove avenue and nearby are not noted for economical prices.

12-23-44

"Hungry Most of the Time"

"As a result," Atkinson asserted, "I'm hungry most of the time." The men work on three eight-hour shifts and it's impossible for those who work at night to sleep uninterruptedly when nearly 100 men are milling about seeking to occupy themselves.

Then there's the problem of shoes. The OPA does not grant the men ration books, so whenever they need a pair of shoes, they are forced to buy them second-hand—and that doesn't appeal to too many of them.

At present there is one of the Jamaicans who's been segregated in the room set aside for the "superintendent"—who's down with an attack of the measles.

'Housed' On Ballroom Balcony

Over in what was originally the balcony of the Pershing Hotel ballroom, still another 64 Barbadians are housed. This L-shaped enclosure is indescribably filthy. No provision is made for a place in which the men may place their clothes and other effects. No provision is made for janitor service. The toilet and bathing facilities are wholly inadequate.

One of the [illegible] at the Pershing died a few weeks ago, reportedly of meningitis. Though residents of the Pershing Hotel proper have complained, the leesee of the building, some person named Warner, continues to collect $3.50 a week from these victims of American hospitality.

Attorney Bindley Cyrus has repeatedly written letters to the WMC, to President Roosevelt, the Chicago Board of Health, Lord Halifax, the British ambassador, to Mayor Kelly and other authorities exposing the conditions under which the visitors are forced to live.

12-23-44

To date, very little effective relief has been forthcoming. In his most recent letter dated Dec. 6, Atty. Cyrus pointed out that "Many of these men have returned to the West Indies with great hatred for the United States because of the consideration they have received.

"That in itself is quite deplorable and unfortunate. Unless the conditions which created this attitude are speedily remedied, the men remaining will adopt a similar attitude and British-United States relationship will suffer as a result.

"More than that, the whole Pan-American program which we have done so much to foster will crumble and disintegrate."

Ex-English King Visits Workers in Delaware

Baltimore, Md. Afro-American
8-19-44

By SAMUEL HAWKINS

WILMINGTON, Del.—"I don't think wages paid in the Bahamas will ever equal those paid in America, but it is safe to say there is going to be great improvement in both living condition and wages for the Bahama islanders," declared the Duke of Windsor Tuesday.

The Duke, accompanied by a party of 35 including news and cameramen and War Fund Administration workers, toured two camps in Sussex County using four Agriculture Department trucks.

Baltimore, Md.

Interviews Many Workers

During the tour, which started at Wilmington at 9:50 a.m., and ended at a peach orchard outside Camp Cool Springs, the Duke interviewed many workers, several of whom he had met in Nassau.

One was Oswald T. Francis, camp cook, who has been in the States 15 months. Prior to leaving the island, he operated an ice-cream business there.

Another was Mrs. Elizabeth Woodside, also of Nassau, who expressed a desire to remain in this country.

Mrs. Mildred Bethel, who has been in this country 3 months, expressed satisfaction with conditions in camp, and James A. Bowe, who was personally acquainted with the Governor-General prior to coming to the States, greeted him.

200 at Cool Springs

Approximately 200 workers were stationed at Camp Cool Springs. Others were working on the private farms throughout Sussex and adjacent counties. Walter B. Becker, camp manager, said the workers appear to be well satisfied.

The Duke took time out to visit a British youth, Charles F. Evans, at the Beebe Memorial Hospital at Lewes. The lad suffered a broken back about four weeks ago while diving into a lake at Rehoboth.

He also visited J. T. Miner, extension camp supervisor, who was in the hospital for treatment.

In the party were:

Lieut.-Col. Henry Walsh, assistant director of the War Fund Administration; John A. Hughes, labor officer of the British Government; Phillip Hewitt-Myering of the British Information Service, and M. E. Hays of Philadelphia.

Balks at Peach Eating

Jesse M. Bailey of 1439 Swan Street, N.W., Washington, was driver of the official car.

The Duke posed obligingly for photographers, answered questions for reporters and on one occasion climbed atop a ladder with one of the workers. But he refused to eat a peach for the benefit of the cameraman.

He said, "I am willing to perform up to a certain point . . . but!"

After the Delaware inspections, the party motored to Baltimore, where the Duke was the guest of his in-laws. His wife, who remained in New York, is the former Wallis Warfield of Baltimore.

Jamaican Workers Shifted to Industry

Baltimore, Md.
Afro-American

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Jamaican farm workers imported by the War Food Administration are being shifted to foundries and the canning industry, according to H. G. MacDonald, chief liaison officer for British West Indies labor.

MacDonald blamed the slackening of agricultural work. Approximately 2,000 of the 17,000 migrants already have been switched, he said.

Imported Workers Harvest American Crops In New Jersey

Baltimore, Md.

By O. S. McCOLLUM
Editor, New Jersey AFRO

SWEDESBORO, N.J. This peach and truck farm area, a half-hour drive from the big, noisy industries at Camden, is in the midst of its harvest season, for the farmers here produce largely for vegetable and fruit markets.

Hundreds of acres of asparagus fields, already picked, are dormant and awaiting 1945. The early apples are out of the way. Now the soy and snap beans, tomatoes, peppers and peaches are ready. Later will come apples, sweet and white potatoes.

Imported Workers Used

This year, as in 1943 and 1942, much of the harvesting is being done by imported workers from the West Indies, who were brought here under agreement between the United States and Great Britain.

The War Food Administration has five camps for migrant workers in the State.

Jamaicans Fill Gap

At the camp near here are 195 Jamaicans. A number of years ago many of the pickers were Italian families who in many cases worked under contract.

Many Workers Lured Away

The great influx of marginal workers which began in the winter and early spring past for migrant labor and Puerto Ricans.

The camp here, a far cry from the makeshift accommodations of many farmers in the past for migrant workers, resembles a small Army post, with its barracks, mess hall and rec hall.

$7.50 Weekly Expenses

Workers, who receive 50 cents an hour on time basis, and sometimes much more on piece work, pay $7 a week for food and 50 cents for lodging. Uncle Sam holds back $7.50 a week for food and lodging plus $1 a day to be paid to the West Indies for the men's families.

Many of the men have believe

Canneries and farmers are times earn much more

that they are performing an important war service and they are loaded with complaints.

Bad Publicity Charged

One big source of irritation is the publication by newspapers in Bridgeton near here and in Florida of stories stating that the workers came here with nothing and earned money only to buy musical instruments and zoot suits.

Another complaint is that they lost money while waiting for crops to mature in spite of the government's agreement which includes a stipulation guaranteeing the men prevailing wages for three-fourths of the time they are here.

Complaints About Food

Although the food is abundant and cooked by Jamaicans, many complain about their lunches.

These workers are hearty eaters and some say that three sandwiches and a piece of fruit or cake are not enough for lunch. They add that their lunches are packed at night, the sandwiches are dry and unappetizing.

The camp officials say that the men work so far apart that lunches must be prepared far in advance and add that they are put up carefully in cellophane bags.

Some See Less Money

There are a number of white workers among the farm workers, and some of them contend that they earn no more here than they would at home.

The camp has a big floored tent for recreation, with ping pong and other games available. The West Indians also go in for horseshoes, and occasionally soccer.

All of the men are free to go where they like when off duty. The only restriction at the camp bars women from the dormitory area.

9-2-44

May Return to U.S.

Many of them who have visited in Philadelphia and New York are interested in returning to the United States to stay after their contracts end.

Marcus Matthias of Swedesboro is camp manager. The assistant center director is J. Garfield Jackson of Glassboro, who was a school teacher before joining the War Food Administration.

A camp nurse, Mrs. Evangeline Treherne, of Philadelphia, maintains a dispensary for the men. The stewardess, who supervises food preparation, is Miss Vertis Spraggins of Pittsburgh.

PUERTO RICANS AIR COMPLAINT AGAINST B&O

P.M. Daily 12-28-44

They Demand AA Send them Home. N.Y., N.Y.

A group of 25 workers who were a part of 1048 Puerto Ricans brought from Maryland to work as track laborers on the Baltimore & Ohio Railroad are demanding that the railroad return them to Puerto Rico at once. Meeting yesterday with Col. Louis Ramirez Brau, former chief of insular police in Puerto Rico and now head of the Puerto Rico Commerce and Industrial Association, the 25 declared they quit their jobs with the B&O because they were poorly fed, ill housed and were left almost penniless by deductions.

ONE MAN'S STORY

The Puerto Ricans were recruited in Puerto Rico by the War Manpower Commission and signed contracts under the terms which would grant them 40 cents an hour for an eight-hour day with six days work a week guaranteed. Deductions were to be made for their transportation from Puerto Rico here, for money to be sent their dependents while they worked for food, clothing, and medical care. But, the men charged, the food they got was poor and they did not get proper medical care.

One worker, Justiniano Cartagena Cifuentes, said that during one two week period his gross earnings were $76.54 but then deductions were made for his dependents, withholding tax, payments on transportation and board were made he got $1.6 in cash for his two weeks' labor. Puerto Rico workers had been "very disappointed" and that all but six of the 1048 brought here quite soon, many of them had been returned to their homes in Puerto Rico, he said. However, the B&O continued the contracts between the workers and road provided they work at least six months. Those on the road felt those who quit before they worked six months were not entitled to transportation at the expense of the road. He stated the Puerto Ricans had received the same food, housing and treatment given other track laborers.

Foreign workers brought to this country to work on railroads and other industries have the protection of inspectors from the Mexican Labor Ministry who look over their quarters, receive and adjust their complaints. The Puerto Ricans are brought here under agreement entirely between the U.S. and Mexican governments while the Puerto Ricans work under their own contract between the workers and the railroad.

12-28-44

35e-1944

950 Negro Laborers Arrive From Barbados

Savannah, Ga., Sept. 6 (AP)—Nine hundred fifty Negro laborers recruited in Barbados to help relieve the labor shortage in southeastern states arrived here today.

Willis Sloan, regional rural industries director of the War Manpower Commission in Atlanta, said each of the laborers had been instructed carefully about local customs. Short in stature, and muscular, the Negroes speak with a British accent.

About 150 of them will be employed in Georgia, 300 in South Carolina, 150 in Florida and 350 in Wisconsin foundries.

Shift West Indians To Industrial Jobs

Atlantic Daily World - Atlanta Ga.

9-7-44

11-1-44

WASHINGTON—(A N P)—Jamaican workers imported by the War Food administration for agricultural purposes are now going into industry, it has been confirmed here by H. G. MacDonald, chief liaison officer for British West Indies labor.

11-1-44

Because of the slackening off in agricultural work, Macdonald said, the men are being gradually absorbed by forge and foundries, where a labor shortage has long existed, and in the canning industry. The likelihood is that others may go into forestry.

11-1-44

So far about 2,000 of the 17,000 British workers in the country have made the switch, he added, and others are changing over daily.

The Jamaican workers have left the farms are now getting more pay for their work, Macdonald declared, btu they are also subject to income tax payments now, he added.

West Indies Farm Hands Face Jail, Peonage Here

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

8-12-44

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Thousands of willing Negro workers from the West Indies induced by patriotic appeals and the desire to cash in on the wartime industrial opportunity have been hauled into the United States under the migrant farm labor program of the War Food Administration and subjected to living conditions which in many instances approximate a return to southern plantation peonage.

So flagrant had become the habit of unjustifiably throwing workers in jail by civilian authorities at the instance of local camp managers for "refusing to work" or "breaking contracts" that Brig. Gen. Philip G. Bruton, director of the WFA Labor Office, found it necessary to issue a memorandum forbidding their arrest except "where it is manifestly necessary to maintain public order and to prevent a disturbance of the peace that endangers life or public property."

Back in May, 17 Bahamians were jailed for leaving their contract jobs at Hale Harrison farms in Worcester County, Maryland. According to one worker conditions were so miserable that when he asked where he should bathe, he was told to go to a lake. Later when the cases were being heard one worker was told by WFA Philadelphia area representative William N. Ensor to "make up your minds now to work under any condition or else go back to Nassau." Eleven of the men were deported.

Get Guarantees

As of July 1, 1944 there were employed in the United States scattered throughout 20 states 17,453 Jamaicans, 5,762 Bahamians and 908 Barbadians. These workers are recruited by their government under contract with the War Food Administration.

8-12-44

Contracts guarantee the "prevailing rate of pay" with an established minimum of 30 cents per hour for a 10-hour day for farm work and provides that they shall be employed for 75 per cent of the time they spend in the country. Contracts further provide that insofar as practicable, workers shall be housed in camps maintained by the government, where camps do not exist, in quarters approved by the WFA.

Significantly, domestic farm workers are given no such written guarantees.

According to National Farmer's Union estimates, one million additional acres in production would not necessitate the importation of foreign workers and point to the availability of between three and four million farm hands in continental United States during the month of May, June and July, 1944.

Negro Workers Frozen

Approximately 80 per cent of all Southern farm hands — migrant wage hands and day labor—is Negro. Frozen in their present areas by Public Law Number 45 (the Pace bill) which prohibits the use of public funds to transport agricultural labor except with consent of the local county agent and this consent is not readliy forthcoming, these farmers eke out a bare starvation wage of an average of $1.80 per day without board in South Carolina as against an average daily wage of $7.20 per day without board being paid in the state of Washington or an average of $4.70 per day without board paid in Michigan where there are employed 1,467 foreign workers.

8-12-44

To assist in the enforcement of Public Law Number 45, it is reliably reported that ticket agents at railroad and bus stations refuse to sell Negro farm workers northbound transportation. Moreover this same source reveals that in many southern sections vagrancy laws are being applied to Negro housewives and business men forcing them to work in the fields.

According to recent information between three and five thousand loggers are now being imported from British Honduras notwithstanding skilled loggers available in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Arkansas saw mill and cypress swamp areas, agricultural experts attest.

The failure of WFA to utilize Puerto Rican and Virgin Islands farm workers has given rise to caustic comment in many quarters. This denial has been predicated on the lack of enforcement measures to return these workers to the islands when their period of contract is completed due to their American citizenship thus adding to a steadily increasing Negro population within the United States.

8-12-44

While the present immigration of farm labor is quoted as a war necessity there are grave implications which point toward a post-war migrant labor problem in which the Negro farm hand seems destined to get the raw end of the deal.

Present Problems of Immigrants

In addition to the real problem of unlawful arrest of foreign workers, feeding and recreation loom as problems two and three. While in some camps the feeding problem has been settled through the establishment of a central dining unit where natives prepare the food, in others the food arrangement is so deplorable as to be a threat to the future health of the workers.

In the Westover camp in Maryland, since June 23, meals have been prepared by the men on fireplaces in the adjoining state park. At the Hebron camp in the same state since May 19, improvised outdoor fireplaces must serve the purpose. All of this is due to the inability of WFA to work out any mutually satisfactory feeding arrangement for these two camps, clouded to some extent by a determination to "shove" some things down the throats of the workers.

Recently J. A. Hughes, labor officer from the Bahamas has been trying to make some headway with the Hebron situation since all of the workers housed there are Bahamian.

8-12-44

The camps for the most part far removed from the town offer little by way of recreation. These workers do little but work, eat and sleep. This abnormal activity contributes to general unrest and discontent in many instances, and where feeding is an additional problem, creates a rather difficult situation.

Due to non-existent state compensation laws for farm workers in most states, to a large extent

DUKE VISITS BAHAMIANS

The Duke of Windsor, governor of Bahamas, pauses in his welfare inspection tour of Bahamian farm workers and climbs a ladder to pick peaches in an orchard. Two Bahamians are shown standing by, one holding the basket and the other steadying the ladder. The Duke spent last Tuesday in and around the Cool Spring farm labor supply center near Lewes, Del., seeing how the Bahamians are getting along.

Duke Of Windsor Visits Bahamian Farm Workers

Journal & Guide - Norfolk Va.
8-19-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Bahamian farm workers at two places in Delaware — the farm labor supply center at Cool Spring and Chandler's Orchards, near Cool Spring — had a caller from home August 8 and gave him an enthusiastic welcome. He was the Duke of Windsor, governor of the Bahamas.

For the Duke it was a case of combining pleasure with business. It was an official inspection trip to see how these subjects of the British Empire were getting along. And he had a good time making it. He expressed pleasure over seeing the workers, having lunch at the Cool Spring center, and hearing of their experiences in helping American farmers produce one of the Allies' most essential weapons of war — food.

CONDITIONS "GOOD"

After the inspection, the Duke commented that he had found the workers "very well taken care of and in very good condition."

8-19-44

The workers were equally pleased over the Duke's visit. At the Cool Spring center, the 175 living there gathered around to chat with him, pointed with pride to their kitchen, mess hall, health clinic, living quarters, and other facilities, and staged a little impromptu entertainment for his benefit. And at Chandler's Orchards, as the Duke stepped from the automobile, the 19 workers there, lined up alongside the road, sang in unison, "God Save the King."

8-19-44

More than 5,700 workers from the Bahama Islands, representing about 20 percent of the adult population of the British West Indies colony, are in the United States this summer, under contract with WFA's office of labor.

THE DUKE TAKES A HAND—For the benefit of photographers, the Duke of Windsor, Governor of the Bahamas, paused last week in his Delaware inspection tour of Bahamian farm workers and climbed a ladder to pick peaches in an orchard where his subjects were working. Two Bahamians are holding the basket and steadying the ladder. The Duke spent a day in and around the Cool Spring farm labor supply center near Lewes, Del. There are more than 5,700 of these West Indians here under contract with the War Food Administration to help farmers cultivate and harvest war crops.

Jamaican Farm Workers Wish To Stay For Duration

Journal & Guide - Norfolk Va.
3-18-44

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla., (ANP)—The consensus among the 1,700 Jamaican farm workers who are in this area helping to harvest a 33,000-acre sgar cane crop for the U. S. Sugar corporation is that they want to stay in this country for the duration and help push wartime food production.

3-18-44

Realizing that a farm job is a war job, the Jamaicans are eager to stay here and do their full part, said one Jamaican, "We are just as important as soldiers." And that's how most of the Jamaicans feel about it. They want to stay here and help win the war despite the fact that they haven't seen their families and sweethearts in almost a year. Here's how they explain it: 3-18-44

"Back home some of us were plumbers, carpenters, small farmers, and workers in the rum distilleries, sugar refineries, and tobacco manufacturing concerns, but we feel that our jobs here contribute more directly to the war. As farmers, most of us grow bananas. But now that wartime shipping has made it difficult to export bananas, England is simply buying them and disposing of them there on the island in order to maintain the colony's economy."

IMPORTANT WORK

"Well, it's no fun growing bananas to be thrown into the sea," said **Felix** Jackson, a banana farmer of Montego Bay, "and besides, it isn't helping to win the war. Since I've been in America I have harvested corn and peas in Wisconsin, and I am cutting cane here in Florida. This is important work for the War Food administration and I am glad to do it."

3-18-44

During an assembly recently on the sugar plantations where they are working, the Jamaicans told Claude A. Barnett, special assistant to the secretary, that they had come here to do a job, and they planned to stay here for the duration and do that job.

Anti-American Hate Protests Against West Indians Ignored

Afro-American Baltimore Md.
5-20-44

HATFIELD, Mass.—Protests, inspired by racial hatred, against the importation of fifty Jamaican tobacco farm workers are being ignored here by Consolidated Tobacco Division officials who point to the exemplary behavior of these workers in other communities.

The protests were climaxed by a white minister's recent declaration from his pulpit that local women should obtain dogs and shot-guns as protection against the Jamaicans.

Jamaicans Arrive in US To Save American Crops

People's Voice - New York N.Y.
5-27-44

An United Fruit Company liner arrived in New York with 600 Jamaicans last Saturday to help solve the problem of farm workers. They were brought here by the War Food Administration to work in the central states. As they waited outside Penn Station with simple luggage, many in sun helmets and white linen suits, a PV reporter moved among them. They were mostly young men with varied experiences and training. Among them were tailors, mechanics, carpenters, telephone operators and musicians. Some were college men. One held a record as a cyclist and another was a well known cricket star and still another a preacher.

They said they enjoyed the trip, had plenty to eat, received $5. each upon arrival and will receive $8 per day on the job. Many had been among those who did not get the opportunity to come over last year.

5-27-44

They said they have not felt the war very seriously, especially since the sub menace was stopped.

People's Voice N.Y.

Jamaicans Back Workers

12-30-44

LONDON—Hundreds of Jamaican workers, brought here to work in war plants, formed a committee to collect funds to pay the expenses of working-class candidates who opposed European merchants and planter candidates at the general elections held under the new Jamaican constitution in November. Headquarters of the group are in Liverpool.

Jamaicans Create Good Will in N.H.

Afro-American Baltimore Md.
7-1-44

DURHAM, N.H. — The 218 Jamaican farm workers housed on the campus of the University of New Hampshire here have worked wonders in creating interracial goodwill.

The Jamaicans, who were brought here by the War Food Administration to work on the farms, have done a good job in the fields.

By their conduct they have broken down misconceptions harbored by many white residents when their coming was announced. The town had had little experience with colored people. Now the Jamaicans attend the community church, white, where they participate in all church activities and sing in the choir and also attend the Catholic church.

They eat in the university dining hall where they are served by regular staff members and have been entertaind by many local groups, including the Durham Grange and the local Knights of Pythias.

Theodore Gaunya is manager of the labor center and Leo C. Fields, Jr., of Wilmington, Del., is assistant manager. The center will close on Saturday.

At White House

11-11-44

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — A bronze finished plaster bust of President Roosevelt, executed by one of the 17,000 Jamaican agricultural workers in this country, was presented to the chief executive last Wednesday by its sculptor, Alvin T. Marriott. The bust was re- [illegible] that he was compelled to work from photographs of the President which he had been able to pick up around [illegible] "admiration" for the President. [illegible] New England. The figure is [illegible] feet two inches and is [illegible] with an imitation bronz [illegible] finish, he said. Saying that he holds a "na- [illegible] for the President, [illegible] sent to the President's study at Hyde Park.

Jamaican Gives FDR Bronze Bust

Defender - Chicago
11-11-44

Jamaicans Detest James Crow and Cold

N.Y. Amsterdam News
11-18-44 N.Y.

Food Production Peak May Cause Curtailment In Imported Labor Needs

AZUCAR, Fla., (ANP). — The United States Sugar Company will use the services of 3,500 of the Jamaican workers who have been imported to help out in the shortage of agricultural labor, I. Lee Parker, director of personnel announced this week. The company used 1,700 last winter and found their work so satisfactory that they have practically doubled their order this year. Many of the additional workers will be used in the new potato growing program.

11-18-44

In Washington, Herbert McConald, chief liaison officer now for all imported labor from the British West Indies, said that there were a total of 25,000 in the country. Of these 17,500 are Jamicans, 5,500 Bahamians, and 900 Barbadians.

Many of the importees are going home for the Winter, their contracts specifying that they need not work in cold climates and in the case of the Jamiacans that they need not work below the Mason and Dixon line except with special arrangement. It is this sort of arrangement which the U. S. Sugar Company is making, giving guarantees as to working conditions, rates of pay, etc.

In Connecticut some 700 are working in industry and War Manpower Commission is expected to take 1,500 more, Mr. McDonald said. The remarkable food production which the Department of Agriculture has been able to implement throughout the country has reached such a peak that there is some question how much longer imported labor will be needed in the country.

U.S. Sugar To Use 3,500 Jamaicans

Chicago Defender-Ill.

AZUCAR, Fla. — (ANP) — The United States Sugar company will use the services of 3,500 of the Jamaican workers who have been imported to help out in the shortage of agricultural labor, I. Lee Parker, director of personnel announced this week.

11-18-44

The company used 1700 last winter and found their work so satisfactory that they have practically doubled their order this year.

Many of the additional workers will be used in the new potato growing program. The company is turning to the production of starch from a variety of sweet potato and has greatly increased its acreage in the everglades and invested more than a million dollars in a new starch plant near Clewiston.

In Washington, Herbert McConald, chief liaison officer now for all imported labor from the British West Indies, said that there were a total of 25,000 in the country. Of these 17,500 are Jamicans, 5,500 Bahamians, and 900 Barbadians.

35f-1944

Race Workers To Return After War, Survey Shows

World — Memphis, Tenn.

7-4-44

SAN FRANCISCO—(SNS)—The massive group of Negro war workers gathered here since the war is migratory and purely transient, a survey conducted by Dr. Charles S. Johnson, director of the Social Science Institute, Fisk University, indicates.

The survey which was financed by the local YMCA and watched and sided by executives of the Julius Rosenwald fund, indicated that San Francisco's small pre-war Negro population more than doubled itself in the less than three years of war-time industry. The migrants come chiefly from farm sections and plantation areas of the central south and the majority of these people plan to return south after the war.

IN JAP AREA

The newcomers have settled in the one time Japanese residential section of the city. The area was evacuated in 1942 after an army order.

7-4-44

Along with the great influx of migrants came the usual social disturbances and problems such as overcrowding, high rentals and a voidance of sanitary conditions. Large families accustomed to the south's out-of-door life, are frequently found huddled in one room or other inadequate living quarters.

"They bring with them besides conversation, fleas and dirt," one local housewife, complained.

Since the large weekly pay checks have supplemented the usual $300 yearly farm wage in the south, many of these newcomers are inclined to spend their money recklessly.

LOCALS INDIGNANT

While local residents are indignant over the fact that such conditions have come about the migrants complain that these oldsters ignore them completely and that an intermingling among the two groups is unheard of.

7-4-44

A poll conducted for the survey indicated that one quarter of the Negro population attends church; more than one quarter goes to the movies and less than one 16th visits taverns or beer halls.

In spite of the fact that these migrants effect a distasteful atmosphere some critics are inclined to view the situation pathetically, reflecting that these workers are gathered to do a job and to aid in the war effort.

00 Bahamans To Work On Meriwether Farms

Constitution, Atlanta, Georgia 6-4-'44

By PAUL WARWICK.
Constitution Staff Writer.

MANCHESTER, Ga., June 3.—First contingent of 400 laborers from the Bahama Islands in the West Indies will arrive here this week to start harvesting Meriwether county's peach crop—and to inaugurate Georgia's first venture in the use of voluntary imported farm workers to relieve the acute employment shortage.

Camp has already been pitched for the Bahamans on the farm of Buford Fowler, five miles west of here, and 130 of the British subject workers will arrive Thursday from Florida, to be followed by 270 others between June 25 and 30—when the Elberta peaches are ready for picking and the harvesting season reaches its peak.

The Meriwether harvesters will be a part of some 5,500 Bahamans and some 7,500 Jamaicans who are already in this country as agricultural workers, about 80 per cent of them employed in the southern states.

CO-OPERATIVE MOVE

Importation of the Negro workers has been a co-operative movement engineered jointly by the office of labor of the War Food administration, the extension department of the United States Department of Agriculture and the Georgia state extension department.

"In no case," points out Hudson Green, chief of operations in the labor office of WFA in the southeastern division, "have these workers been used to replace or supplant domestic labor. They are only used after county, state and even national surveys have been made by the agencies involved to find all domestic labor available—and a shortage is still found to remain. They are finally assigned to work in a given area only after farmers—in this case, the peach growers of this immediate region—have signed a certificate of necessity and a contract has been made with the workers." 6-4-44

All the Bahamans bound for Meriwether county have been at work already on crops in Florida—harvesting potatoes, truck crops, sugar cane and, in some instances, citrus fruits. The imported labor is used almost exclusively, in various parts of the country, at harvest time, when the real and temporary pinch for workers generally emerges.

COURSE IN PICKING

None of the 400, it was said, has had experience in harvesting peaches and, as a consequence, the first step will be a quick course in the art, which demands proper judgment of readiness of the fruit for plucking and a deft touch which will not bruise it and spoil it for shipping. All of this particular consignment of pickers will be absorbed by Meriwether county vailing wage in whatever crop they chance to be working in, with a minimum of 30 cents an hour. Food and shelter are provided them at cost by the affiliated agencies sponsoring their work.

Manager of the camp near here is Rivers P. Lindsley, who has a staff of three assistants to help him run things. C. O. Dickey is in charge of transportation arrangements.

It will take 50 of the old regulation Army tents, with board floors and set on concrete pillars, to house the 400. The clinic, the staff office, staff quarters and the laundry and shower buildings are ready-cut portable structures—loaned by the Commodity Credit Corporation and originally designed as grain bins for the ever-normal granary plan.

in which some 600 cars of peaches —less than half the normal production—are expected to be fit for marketing this season.

"Use of the Bahaman laborers has been highly successful where it has been tried," said Wren. "The first lot was imported in the spring of 1943 and, in every case, farmers who worked them were completely satisfied and signified a desire to employ even more of them this year."

In addition to the West Indies influx, the same co-operative arrangement s also importing about 60,000 Mexican nationals for work in the west and some 1,500 natives of Newfoundland have been brought into the country as help on the dairy farms in New York state, New England and, in a few instances, as far west as the busy dairy lands of Wisconsin.

NO CHILDREN 6-4-44

By original agreement, the first 75 cents out of each laborer's pay on each new job is sent back to the Bahamas to become part of a trust fund set up for the benefit of their families—for, although a maximum of 25 per cent of the laborers may be women, there are no children included in the number.

Peaceful and well-behaved, the West Indies natives are also highly individualistic, say those who have worked with them. In camp, they have their own preachers and public meetings and are particularly noted for the cleanliness of their persons and their habits. They also organize their own self-governing bodies in camp. Each of them underwent a strenuous physical examination before being accepted for entrance into this country, and general health has been excellent.

At the camp here, for emergency use, a sizable clinic, under direction of a registered nurse, will be a feature of the facilities.

The Bahamans also have their own ideas about food and their wishes are respected in the matter. Their own cooks prepare the food under direction of a mess steward supplied by WFA.

FISH AND MORE FISH

Fish—and then more fish—and another dish which sounds like Hoppin' John a la Creole seem to be their favorites. This latter dish is based on rice, cooked in the more or less soggy fashion, drenched in tomato sauce and fortified with peas.

The workers are paid the pre-

"Young Man, Go South"

Memphis World—Memphis, Tenn.

Edwin Embree, outlining basic steps toward the unfinished business of democracy for American Negroes, advised among five other plans, that Negroes keep moving out of the South. He says: "There is no decent life for all of you in the southern rurals so far as the mind of man can see. You will have a hard time even in the North and West, but at least you will have some freedom. You'll have decent schools for your children and some public provision for recreation, for reading and listening to music, for rest and play. As you leave the South you will relieve your fellows of the pressure which is always heaviest where the colored masses are densest. At least another million Negroes should move out of the South during this decade," ended Mr. Embree. 6-6-44

Over against this viewpoint, Dr. Mordecai W. Johnson, President of Howard University, delivering the baccalaureate sermon to the graduates of his institution, challenged the students to put their diplomas in their pockets and go down to "Brazos' Bottom", any neglected backwoods southern town and give its people leadership. Before Dr. Johnson's advice to the graduates was cold Pauli Murray, a law graduate of the famed institution, suggested to his six colleagues that the entire class of seven go down to Mississippi together. "In ten years," he said, "we might come back to Congress."

For more than a year, we have weighed the soundness of Edwin Embree's advice and to what extent southern Negroes should follow it in moving away from the South. There is certainly a difference between what Mr. Embree suggested and the advice of Dr. Johnson. One would have Negroes keep moving out of the South. The other would have educated Negroes moving back into the South where they can furnish the leadership so necessary for the Negro masses. 6-6-44

There is no doubting the truth that the illiterate, unchurched and near home-less plantation Negroes of the South could better themselves and their economic and social conditions by moving to Northern or Western areas, rather than remaining in squalor, filth and ignorance in the rurals. Such a person can make no sizeable contribution to the growth and expansion of the South. He is purposely denied the larger opportunities for reasons of support to the white landed aristocrats and planters. His treatment and enslavement is a long and dark story in

Practice Committee in An address delivered to officers and stewards of Local 10 of the CIO United Auto Workers union.

Mr. Hunt said: "Here in the South, where a very large proportion of the population is colored, our principal work is in securing the placement of these persons in war plants at their highest skills in order that every available and qualified person may aid in producing the goods of

goods of war, and it we are not to place in jeopardy the lives of our soldiers by a failure to supply them with equipment, these machines must be operated by every available person, whether he or she is white or brown or black, or a member of a minority religious group."

7-22-44

...gal For War

7-22-44

...Negro Labor

...Chicago, Ill.

Dixie Wa...

Defender—C...

Vital ...

7-22-44

ATLANTA, Ga. — Southern war plants cannot maintain war production unless Negro workers ... with whites to reduce labor shortage. "Let us not deceive ourselves. The conclusion drawn ... Regional Director A. ... the Fair Employment ... brilliant essays and write high-sounding resolutions on ... Bruce Hunt of the ... South has important war plants and there are not enough white persons to operate the existing machines. If these machines are to produce the

PICKED NATIVES FROM BARBADOS HELPING PACKER

Tribune – Chicago, Ill.
8-4-44

West Indies Negroes Show Loyalty.

One hundred Negroes from Barbados, British West Indies, are at work at the Agar Packing and Provision corporation plant at 41st st. and Union av., helping to relieve a man power shortage which threatened to create a bottleneck in food production, Wilbur O. Edwards, Agar vice president, disclosed yesterday.

British and American authorities coöperated to pick men of high physical and mental caliber, he said. The result is a group of capable workers who, in Edwards' own words, "are extremely energetic and show the very top spirit of willingness."

Show Loyalty to Allies.

He said that at home many of them were skilled workers of a high type and that their character is revealed in the extreme courtesy—almost courtliness—with which they treat their fellow workers.

"Some of them work 60 to 80 hours a week," Edwards declared. "They have voluntarily demonstrated their loyalty to the allied cause."

Much of Agar's production, Edwards explained, goes to the army, the navy, and lend-lease. The corporation's specialty is pork products.

8-4-44

The men have passports which permit them to remain in the United States one year. They are guaranteed 90 days of employment. Their ages range from about 27 to 43 and many of them are married. Their earnings range from about $45 to about $75 a week.

British Collect on Pay.

From their earnings are deducted a United States tax of 10 per cent and a British tax of 25 per cent, as well as the regular social security payments. Some of the British tax may be credited to them at home, Edwards said.

The men were transported to Miami at British and American government expense. Half of their subsequent travel expense is paid by the contractors and subcontractors for whom they work, half by themselves. They are housed temporarily in the International amphitheater at the stock yards thru army coöperation. No decision has been made yet as to how the men are to help pay for these accommodations. Their food they purchase themselves.

35g-1944

Mixed Motormen's Staff in Philadelphia Operates Harmoniously; 12 Now on Runs

Afro-American—Baltimore, Md.

12-2-44

By MICHAEL CARTER

PHILADELPHIA — Less than five full months after Philadelphia transit workers walked off their street cars and buses in protest against the hiring of eight well-trained colored street transit operators, the same white workers elected a colored man to a high office in the union and some of them seem to be embarrassed about the hate strike. 12-2-44

According to union officials, "It's beyond comment, there are no complaints and every one seems happy." According to company officials, "It is all very quiet and we have no trouble. We never expected any trouble."

At this writing, there are twelve colored men operating cars and five more in training. The latter should be through with the stiff 21-day training course in two weeks.

First Hired Still on Job

The eight men who were originally hired at the outset are still at their jobs. They are all operating street cars at 95 cents an hour. 12-2-44

Like the white drivers, each steers one of the Philadelphia Transportation Company's 1970 surface cars through the streets of Philadelphia at the same average speed of 10 miles per hour and covers about 80 miles a day. Their accident record is excellent, company officials report.

Max Windham, the colored union leader who was elected to a union vice-presidency, was on a union delegation to the company office on the day the AFRO investigated the race situation in Philadelphia's transit system. He was handling the grievances of white workers. 12-2-44

Union Pays for Lost Time

On other days, Windham is a welder at $56 a week. The union pays him an equal amount for days he loses in handling grievances and doing other union work. The union pays no regular salaries to its officers. 12-2-44

About 700 of the union's 9,000 members are colored, Windham said. Most of them still work on what appear to be jim crow jobs in the shops and in maintenance and repair departments.

The company is still short of operators, but has not attempted to overcome the shortage by general hiring of colored operators.

Majority on One Line

In fact, discrimination of a very weird type may be in operation against those men it has hired. Of the twelve who are now at work, eight are driving on the Callowhill line.

According to Levi Jolley, editor of the Philadelphia AFRO-AMERICAN, 75 per cent of the riders on that line are colored. The company stated that "We needed operators there and so we filled the vacancies with the men as they came in."

In any case, there is one colored operator each on the Southern, Germantown, Woodland and Alleghany routes. 12-2-44

Willing but Afraid

The C.I.O. union leaders I talked to seemed to be wholeheartedly in favor of the complete abolition of jim crow in the hiring practices of the company and would personally welcome more colored operators. But they are afraid of the temper of the men.

"The race issue could be a powder keg," one leader said. "It has simmered down now, but enemies of the union—who're also enemies of your people—would fasten upon any honest racial statement we make and build it into an issue.

"They could even say, 'I told you so — join the CIO and give the colored people your jobs!' We have to be careful to prevent that kind of situation." A white union man told me that. Windham agreed with him. 12-2-44

Men Mix Well

Windham assured me that "White operators are helping the colored men. They are getting along well with each other. The colored men like their jobs and are giving the company a good day's work." 12-2-44

Windham does not think that the white workers ever really opposed the employment of colored workers.

"I think it was a condition created by management and the company union," said Windham, who partially attributes the small number of colored motormen to the high percentage of illiteracy among the colored and Italian road gangs.

Upgraded Only

To date, the colored motormen have been promoted to operators from other jobs, usually in the shops. 12-2-44

Windham charges the company with continued refusal to hire colored men off the streets. "They take them on a promotion basis only. They have not yet decided to take colored women," he said.

However, the total Philadelphia Traction picture as seen by Windham is placid. "We don't even discuss race much any more," he said conclusively.

PHILADELPHIA TRANSPORTATION CO.

Officials of the PTC unanimously agree:

"It's all very quiet as far as race is concerned. There have been no letters published in the press and we have received no letters damning us for hiring colored people." 12-2-44

"We are not using colored women because it is such a serious thing — you have to interest women in work like that," one official said.

In fact, the company had an explanation for everything. There are no colored men on the subways because:

None Expected on Subways

"We had one fellow, but he backed out. Subway operators are picked on the basis of seniority in the department. They get 8 cents an hour more and you have to work up to that kind of job." No they do not expect the immediate employment of any.

Of the conduct of the colored employees, the company said:

"Perhaps they are being watched more closely by the passengers, but we have not received any complaints. Our accident has improved for the first ten months of this year and we expect it to continue in the same direction." 12-2-44

A Delicate Problem

On race relations in general: "Our position is very delicate. We have to handle the thing very carefully. If we handle it quietly it will be for your good and ours too. 12-2-44

"We are in the transit business and our prime purpose is to take care of the public; we don't want to foment trouble."

During most of the time that I spent in the PTC office I was regaled with polite small talk and a lengthy discussion of transportation safety and methods of training operators.

Race was farthest from the minds of the three executives to whom I talked, it seemed.

It was with considerable effort that I was even able to bring up the nasty topic. But the answer was always the same.

"Everything is now quiet, let's keep it that way." The executives felt the election of Windham to an office in the union was a sign of inter-racial good will, but they still feel uneasy about the whole "experiment."

Only one of the men referred to the employment of colored operators as an "experiment" and he quickly with drew the word.

SUMMARY 12-2-44

Summarily, the PTC situation looks well. There does not seem to be any indication of further trouble brewing. The colored operators have been generally accepted by the members of the union and Philadelphia passengers as well.

In a very dispassionate sense, the situation is ironically humorous. The company did not willingly admit colored operators although it hired a considerable number of colored men in other jobs.

The union willingly admitted colored men, but union leaders became afraid of their effect on the membership. They knew that the colored men could be used as a weapon against the union. This actually happened.

Want Men's Confidence

The union wants to see more colored operators, but is afraid to press for them now, because if they do, they risk losing the confidence of the men. 12-2-44

In short, neither the union leaders nor the transit officials completely trust the fullness of the "American spirit of fair play" that is supposed to be inherent in all Americans.

However, Philadelphia's experience in hiring colored men should serve as an example to other cities: it can be done and everything works out all right. There is no racial trouble in the PTC that time and intelligent union direction cannot solve.

Hunter Student Models for Exclusive Fur Shop

AFRO-American 11-4-44

Baltimore, Md.

New York Company Sets Precedent

MISS MALVENIA BOMAR

By R. D. RICHARDS

11-4-44

NEW YORK. — The exclusive Worthmore Fine Furs Company, located at 251 W. Thirty-fourth Street, is now employing a colored secretary-model. This liberal concern is establishing a precedent by breaking through the jim-crow line in this famous fur-shopping district which has always been antagonistic toward hiring colored women in that capacity.

"I don't see the difference between colored people and whites," Samuel Lassman, manager, said in an exclusive AFRO interview this week. "All people are the same, and there are good and bad in both races. The color of a person's skin has nothing to do with his capabilities.

"We hired Miss Malvenia Bomar three weeks ago because we thought she was suited for the job. She's a fine girl, intelligent, co-operative, and an excellent worker. I'm happy to have her here.

Discrimination Stupid

"I never could understand why people discriminate," he continued. "It seems so stupid. After all, colored people have to make a living, too, and if they are capable of doing a good job, why shouldn't they be hired?"

Mrs. Pearl Marcy, a white saleswoman, told the AFRO:

"Miss Bomar is a good model, and a good secretary. Worthmore's has some of the best furs in the district, and she models them to advantage. Her secretarial work consists mostly in taking care of our records and files during her spare time."

Hunter Student

Miss Bomar is a student at Hunter College where she is majoring in psychology.

"I attend school part-time. I work here all day and go to college after business.

"This is the first job I ever had as a fur model," she replied to an AFRO query, "although I was a photographer's model for five years and worked for a number of studios. I started modelling when I went to high school, and I'm still doing it because I like this type of work."

School Records Good

11-4-44

Miss Bomar, who lives at 80 St. Nicholas Avenue, is a graduate of George Washington High School. Her school records in both high school and college are considered exceptional by her instructors, especially in mathematics and social sciences.

She studied music and modern dance at the Greenwich Settlement House in Greenwich Village for several years.

Miss Bomar gives the impression that she is younger than her 20 years. She is shy, and thinks carefully before she answers. Her speech is excellent, and she lets you know that she wants to get straight to the point.

"I am very much interested in child psychology and the folklore of the colored people," she said. "Some day, I'd like to do some writing on these subjects.

"Believe it or not, my hobbies are crafts, radio engineering, and badminton." 11-4-44

Personal Observations

Worthmore's has taken a courageous stand. It's one thing to hire colored people in stock jobs like Macy's does, and hide them from the public; and quite another to have a colored model display furs to all your customers.

So far, according to the manager, there have been no repercussions. He indicated that business has not fallen off, nor has he been attacked by other fur organizations in the district.

35g-1944

Negro Trolley Operators Make Good

Call-Kansas City, Mo.
5-5-44

By LAWRENCE F. LAMAR

SAN FRANCISCO. — (NPB) — For one coming to this city from this state's southern metropolis, Los Angeles, there is abject amazement and wondering pride, at the way officials of San Francisco's two street railway company's have overcome an imagined popular opposition to the employment of Negro men and women as operators of their streetcars.

Conduct, and strict attention to their job and the company's business of providing the public with transportation with the least bit of discomfiture, proved to be the solution to the whole problem.

In an interview, Tom Irwin, in charge of public relations for the Municipal Railway System, revealed that good conduct, a control of temper in face of anger, plus the ability to perform the duties of conductor or motorman were the chief instruments the railway system employed to break a vital manpower bottleneck.

Cole As Motorman

The railway company needed men to operate its vast rolling stock. The source from which it had been formerly recruited was depleted. The Negro worker represented a large untapped field of supply.

5-5-44

Yet company officials were reluctant to touch it for fear of touching off a verboten social fuse that would soon ignite into a labor explosion. But little more than a year ago an attempt was made to push a Negro, Audley Cole by name, through civil service.

The company promptly hired him. He was assigned as a motorman. Here, the company's suspicions were justified. No motorman would go out on a trip with Cole and act as his instructor.

Despite company assignments, no man, regardless, of his views on the matter wanted to be the first to break the ice. No man wanted the 'finger of scorn' pointed to him as, "there goes that guy who broke in a N———"

Quits Voluntary

With the transportation union offering to pay any man's salary who was fired for refusing to take the Negro employe out on his run for instructions, the company was faced with a problem that loomed bigger than the original.

This was solved only when the chief instructor, a member of the union, but also an official himself took the man out and finished his 11-day training period. For doing so, that man had his face bashed in by goon squadders.

5-5-44

Throughout all this race bickering, threats of a major strike, a union-inspired public outbursts against his employment and threats of personal injury, Cole rode his car and stuck to his post. No harm happened to him. There was no strike. Cole, after a few months working as a motorman and assured that others would take his place, decided that the job was unsuitable for him. He quit voluntary.

10 Per Cent Are Negroes

Today, of the 1200 men and women employed as streetcar operators over the municipal system, 10% or 110 of them are Negroes. A majority of these are women. The company also hires Mexicans, Portuguese, Chinese and an Eskimo as trainmen. All of these were verboten before the war as employes.

The Market Street railway company also hires Negro men as operators of their cars. These employes fill ordinary regular runs and operate with mixed race and sex crews. With the exception of compaint from a few racephobist die hards and the ordinary plaints of a tired and harrassed public, the hiring of Negroes as trainmen in San Francisco is hardly noticeable. The public has gotten used to them.

5-5-44

Public relation man Tom Irwin, laid particular stress on the fact, that one of the first things his company attempted to do with all of its employes during their training period, was to see to it that all of the chips were brushed clean off each one's shoulders.

Then, he pointed out, the subject could be properly instructed in the do's and dont's that the company expects of its employes. He added that an open mind, a heart that could appreciate the other fellow's ordinary chagrin, plus a little politeness are the best balms known to heal the festering sores of race, color and religious prejudice.

Urges Integration
of Negro Workers

well worth-while,' Shannon said.

Negroes were employed at the western electric Kearny plant for the first time two years ago, he said. "We took them because of the manpower shortage. What has been done at western electric has been a pattern. We think it has been good business and it has made contributions toward social gains."

Defender--Chicago, Ill.
5-13-44

refusal of our employes to work when Negroes were upgraded and hired as platform workers some time ago, the responsibility rests with the U. S. Government to see that there is no work stoppage."

He cited the recent Philadelphia disorder and said that his company did not want such a thing to happen in Los Angeles.

Idle Buses Revealed

FEPC members cross-examined Neary at length, and revealed that during a typical rush period 167 cars and 32 buses were idle due to a shortage of operators. Neary testified that Mexicans, Indians and other non-whites were hired, and admitted that some Negroes might be "getting by" passing as Mexicans or Indians.

7-10-44

N.Y. Regional WMC Leads Nation in War on Job Bias

AFRO-American-Baltimore, Md.
11-4-44

WASHINGTON (ANP)—Region 11 of the War Manpower Commission in New York, Miss Anna M. Rosenberg, director, is way ahead of the national office, headed by Chairman Paul V. McNutt, in the development and application of a sound non-discriminatory labor policy.

The detailed concern for a fair job policy is laid out in a handbook for area directors, superintendents and managers of offices of the United States Employment Service, brought up to October 2. High points of their revised manual are:

Salient Points in Program

1. The definition of discrimination is expanded to include "segregation in employment" as a form of discriminatory employment practice.

11-4-44

2. The relationship between the non-discrimination policy and the stabilization program is clarified.

3. The manager's responsibilities in the implementation of this policy are more clearly defined.

4. The procedure for the discernment of discriminatory hiring patterns has been developed in greater detail.

5. Information is included on the relationship between WMC, the Fair Employment Practice Committee and the Governor's Committee on Discrimination in Employment.

11-4-44

Discrimination Defined

According to Miss Rosenberg's advanced policy, discrimination by an employer or anyone acting as his agent or on his behalf, "including a labor organization," is defined as:

a. "The submission of hiring specifications which exclude from, limit, or restrict employment to levels below their best skills or abilities occupationally qualified workers of any race, color, creed, national origin, or, except as may be specifically required by law citizenship.

11-4-44

b. "The refusal to classify properly or to refer or to hire, the segregation in employment, the limitation of upgrading opportunities or the exclusion from in-plant training programs of available occupationally qualified aliens or workers of any race, color, creed or national origin, or the maintenance of unequal wage scales upon race, color, creed or national origin."

11-4-44

Personnel Kept Informed

To give reasonable assurance that key people in the agency are kept posted on new deal developments, the regional committee on non-discrimination issues interpretations for the guidance of the staff in implementing the non-discrimination policy and procedures.

Apart from a full statement of policy, the manual, in effect, takes the staff worker by the hand and leads him step by step through the minutest detail in the handling of a case of discrimination, suspected or real. Typical forms are included as a part of the brochure and diagrams give added clarity.

Los Angeles Street Cars Agree To Hire Negro Motormen, Wipe Out Color Bans

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
8-19-44

LOS ANGELES. — Pleading guilty to charges of refusing to hire Negroes as street car conductors and motormen at the one-day hearing held by the Fair Employment Practices Committee on August 8, the Los Angeles Railway Company its discriminatory policy by expressing the fear of a general strike by white employes. Laying the responsibility of eliminating racial discrimination on the U. S. government, Neary said, "Because of the

Testimony of witnesses bore out the company's frank admittance of racial discrimination. James A. Herod, a graduate of Strait College of New Orleans, now an insurance executive, told the committee that he applied for a position as motorman but was told that he could only be used as a porter. Herod is the father of six children and has purchased more than 50 war bonds.

Star witness was Mrs. Nora Slayden, 26, who had worked as a conductor for the San Francisco Municipal Railway Co. She also served as instructor for white and Negro applicants. However, according to her testimony before the committee, Mrs. Slayden was discouraged by J. I. Finn, placement officer, when she applied for a conductor's job in Los Angeles. She quoted him as telling her, "I am from the South and have dealt with your people all my life. I think the Negro is happier in domestic service."

When questioned by Maceo Hubbard, prominent Philadelphia attorney and counsel for the FEPC, in relation to her experiences in San Francisco, Mrs. Slayden answered, "I had no trouble whatsoever. As a matter of fact, I was told by many white passengers that they preferred Negro conductors as they had more patience with children and older persons." 8-19-44

Union Admits Discrimination

The traction employes union also admitted its anti-Negro stand. Roy D. McClurg, president of AFL Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes, Local 1277, declared that the job of getting the members to accept Negroes as platform workers is too big for one local division to undertake.

"It is nationwide and we need national help to solve it," he told the committee. He referred to a recent poll in one district which showed that 87 percent of the workers "said they would quit or strike if Negroes were upgraded." The union itself, however, is pledged "never to discriminate against any fellow worker because of color, race or creed," he added.

Civic leaders and executives of war plants in the Los Angeles area, appearing as witnesses, discounted the company's alleged fear of a general strike. Carl Wetcher, assistant personnel manager of Lockheed Aircraft, which employs more than 3,000 Negroes in all capacities, stated that there was no friction in his plant due to the promotion and upgrading of Negroes. 8-19-44

White Bishop Hits Company

Floyd C. Covington, executive director of the Los Angeles Urban League and member of the local housing authority, produced a chart to indicate population congestion and distance of travel to work by Negroes. He asserted that the community was being made to suffer due to the transportation "bottleneck" created by Los Angeles Railway's racial bias in hiring Negroes. Thomas Campbell of the WMC told of the number of Negro referrals made by his agency who were turned down by the traction company, and Bishop Joseph D. T. McGucken, auxiliary bishop of the diocese of Los Angeles, sent a prepared statement to the committee denouncing the railway's policy. 8-19-44

Further evidence against the company was furnished by Mrs. Cortez Strange, senior interviewer for the USES. In her testimony before a packed courtroom, she declared that on many occasions she had called the attention of J. I. Finn, company placement officer, to the fact that Negro applicants for motorman and conductor jobs were discriminated against because of their color. She further states she was unable to get Finn to commit himself upon the hiring policies of the railway company. She cited figures to show that of the hundreds of Negro and white applicants referred for conductor, conductorette, mechanic, guard and machinists jobs, the only ones that Negroes were offered were yardman.

FEPC Issues Order

Representatives of the Los Angeles Railway Company finally agreed to bring the policies and practices of the company into conformity with the national policy of non-discrimination as provided for in the President's executive order. The action followed issuance of an immediate order by the FEPC directing the company to cease and desist from refusing to hire Negroes and to promote Negro employes qualified for motormen, conductors and bus drivers. 8-19-44

The agreement was voiced at a closed conference held in the local FEPC office between company officials, representatives of the union, and members of the committee. Under the agreement reached, the railway will take immediate steps to comply with the FEPC order and will report on the steps taken to the regional director for the committee.

The committee also agreed to recommend to the War Manpower Commission that labor priority removed March 24 of this year be restored to the company. The committee declared, "It is understood that reasonable time will be necessary to eliminate the discriminatory practices found to exist and that if, after a reasonable time, the practices have not been eliminated, the committee will take affirmative action to obtain compliance."

FEPC Chairman Malcolm Ross presided over the hearing. Others on the committee were John Brophy, CIO; Boris Shishkin, AFL; Atty. Charles H. Houston, Washington, D. C.; and Milton P. Webster, AFL Sleeping Car Porters.

New Assistant Manager

Age—New York, N. Y.

5-20-44

Last Thursday, George Thomas, 25, was promoted to assistant manager of W. T. Grant's, 226 West 125th street, to fill the position formerly held by Deaver Young, operating manager.

The new appointee has been with the organization since October 10, 1931, when he started as a stockboy. His later promotions were in the order of head stockman, window trimmer, and at the time of his appointment last week, he was working in the capacity of floor manager. 5-20-44

A native of New York City, he is a graduate of P. S. 157, Cooper Junior High School, and New York Industrial and Trade School. He is a sergeant in the 15th Regiment, N. Y. S.

35g-1944

Negro Television Engineer Makes Good

Northwest Herald
Baltimore Courier
11-7-44

NEW YORK—Suave, Arnold P. Toolsie is one of the several Negro technical engineers who has demonstrated his bality before and during this World War.

An M. I. T. man (graduate from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology), Toolsie has been employed by the Radio Corporation of America as Radio and Television Specialist. For six years he was with RCA and then became instructor for the United States Army Signal Corps. Now Toolsie has his own Television Service Laboratory at 2618 8th Avenue, where he keeps up the 150 television sets owned by Harlemites.

"Television isn't hard to learn," Toolsie told us when we praised his accomplishments. "Any good radio service man can learn it," he added. "But just what can be done to encourage our young people to get in the field?" we asked him. Earnestly, he said, "If the public knew the great value of television, greater interest would be taken. I feel certain our young folks would be glad to get into the field."

It's Not Over Yet

MISS GLADYS THENS, one of the fastest and most efficient welders at the Kaiser Co., Permanente Metals Corp. yards near Oakland, Calif., is sticking to her job until final victory is won. A native of Pueblo, Col., she has been employed in the shipyard for the last two years. She says, "Every time I put in one more day on a ship, I know we are moving one day closer to V-E and V-J Days.
—Official OWI Photo by Joseph.

Blumstein's Store Proves Races Can Work Together

AFRO-AMERICAN Balt., Md.
12-30-44

By RICHARD R. DIER

The celebration of the New Year's holiday in Harlem is of especial significance to the colored and white employees of Blumstein's big department store where they have worked together harmoniously in all types of jobs for the past ten years.

It takes on added meaning as you walk through the store and see colored workers at all sales counters, in the accounting division and at clerical jobs in the offices.

A great deal of credit should be given to Jack Blumstein, vice president, who adopted a policy of non-discrimination at a time when most of Harlem's shopkeepers were living in the jim-crow past.

Racism "Dead Issue"

"The idea of using colored men and women in all positions is practically a dead and buried issue," Mr. Blumstein told the AFRO this week in an interview in his executive offices at the store, 125th Street and Seventh Avenue.

"Right now, as we go into our eleventh year of this policy, we feel that it is the normal thing to do and we have no plans to change at any time in the future.

"It's worked out very well, and I only hope that stores like Saks downtown will take a hint and follow suit. That's the type of place where lots of pressure should be put on to force them to see the light."

PERSONAL OBSERVATIONS:

Despite the fact that the Harlem district is predominantly colored, Blumstein's was a pioneer in mixed employment only as little as a decade ago.

Harlem store-owners, the majority of whom are white, fought very bitterly against hiring colored employees right up to the beginning of the war. This is difficult to understand since practically all their business was derived from these same people.

At least that shows how strong reaction and jim-crowism are, even in the so-called liberal City of New York.

Led the Way for Others

For that matter, it is highly possible that even Blumstein's would not have taken its stand against discrimination had it been situated in a white neighborhood.

However, we should not overlook the fact that this store had the courage to make a stand at a time when much smaller business-es did not. Unquestionably, it helped pave the way for the employment of colored people in every store in Harlem today.

N.Y. Telephone Company To Hire Negro Girls

N.Y.N.Y. People's Voice

The New York Telephone Company is beginning to employ Negro girls as operators, it was announced Wednesday by O. M. Taylor, vice president of the company. According to Mr. Taylor, one-fourth of the applicants were found eligible for employment, pending their passing the physical examinations. The percentage of Negro applicants who qualified is twice as high as the company has found to be true of white applicants.

12-2-44

Mr. Taylor expressed gratitude to George DeMar, industrial relations secretary of the New York Urban League, for assistance in getting the applicants. He anticipates no difficulty in connection with their employment, he said.

Pennsy's First Colored Steward

AFRO-American Balt., Md.

5-27-44

W. L. Bright (right) of 53 Hamilton Terrace, NYC, first colored steward to be employed by the Pennsylvania Railroad, is shown on duty on one of the company's dining cars, where he has charge of a crew of six waiters, four chefs and a pantryman. Mr. Bright, a native of Anderson, S.C., and a graduate of Claffin College, Orangeburg, S.C., entered the restaurant field during his school days when he and other hotel bellhops were asked to fill in for waiters who failed to report for duty. He entered the Pennsylvania dining car service as a waiter in 1938, and has served as waiter-in-charge on a number of occasions.

5-27-44

Bell Telephon Employs Two Colored Girls As Clerks

Tribune—Philadelphia, Pa.
12-23-44

Announcement was made this week that two girls, Misses Vivian Brizill and Enia Cobb, had been hired as clerks by the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania in its Philadelphia office.

Both girls are graduates of Philadelphia high schools, Miss Cobb also being a Cheyney State Teachers' College graduate.

Miss Brizill, who lives at 917 south 23rd street, was formerly employed by the Silent Watchman Corporation of New York. Miss Cobb resides at 5712 Cambridge street.

12-23-44

They were placed through the Armstrong Association, 1434 Lombard street, the referral agency for the telephone company.

Alabama Citizen, Tuscaloosa
weekly Negro

359

R. M. Nalls of Fayette, Ala., the only colored Head Mechanic was the first boy to graduate from Fayette High School. Is now head mechanic at Dobbs Motor Company and has given satisfaction in his work.

11-4-44

Texas Firm Employs Engravers On Basis Of Full Work Equality

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.
11-11-44

By C. E. CHAPMAN

TYLER, Tex. (ANP)—Down here in this East Texas metropolis is "something new under the sun" in the realm of engraving, it was revealed here last week when a representative of the Associated Negro Press called at the plant of the East Texas Engraving Co., and noted that two Negro engravers work on the firm's staff.

The company is owned and operated by John W. Newbern and William E. Nourse, the latter being in the navy. Inquiry of Newbern, manager ,concerning the ability of the employes to get along together, since they are a mixed crew, brought the answer:

11-11-44

Don't Have Favorites

"We don't have any favorites here and we practice no favoritism in our business. We are in business for business' and service's sake and nothing else matters with us. We seek to give the highest quality of service and on that we stake our right to patronage on the part of the public. The matter of race does not enter our consideration."

There are no differential in the scale of pay, the manager further explained and the remark was corroborated by the employed Negro engravers, LaSalle Gunter and Clinton Polk . Gunter has been with the firm five years while Polk was there a year.

11-11-44

Deal Squarely

The manager of the company took time off to show an order of 60 cuts of Negroes to be shipped to a Shreveport customer. "We deal squarely to all of our customers," the manager explained.

The firm does work for 6,000 printers and papers in 48 states.

Women Operate Street Cars On West Coast

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.
4-29-44

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif.—Because war manpower shortage has caused the employment of women operators and conductresses, a number of Negro women are now manning cars and cable cars in the transportation system in this area.

One of the companies which employs a large number of Negro women is municipally owned and was the first of the two to throw open its doors of employment to Negroes. The alertness and sincerity of the Negro conductorettes have been praised. They are said to regard their job with more seriousness and sincerity of duty than the men employed in the same capacity.

4-29-44

Negro women are also employed at the two car barns in varied lines of work, principally in servicing and maintenance work.

The difficulties encountered by the street car union to get Negro workers placed was cited by a white street car employe. He told how a movement had been sponsored to employ Negroes in the service of the larger bus companies (transcontinental). The excuse made by the companies was the extra expense of constructing extra toilet facilities for white and colored employees.

Easter Style — 1944 Model

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
9-16-44

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Ordinarily this space after Easter would be used for a photo showing the latest in Easter styles, but today women are doing more important things than wearing clothes. This is Mrs. Sara Carpenter, 11 Orleans Street, Newark, N.J., assigned to Pennsylvania Station. She is one of seven colored women cab drivers.—

35g-1944

100 'Wildcat' Drivers Jailed In Cab Racket

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

By J. W. E. SAUNDERS

One hundred unlicensed, wildcat drivers of private cars have been arrested and arraigned in court this week for illegally using their cars for public hire.

The wholesale arrests followed the startling expose in last week's Chicago Defender of the vicious "taxicab" racket. Many of the violators were fined, and other warned to stop their unlawful practice immediately. All the unlicensed drivers arrested also face possible Federal prosecution as users of 'black market' gasoline, conviction for which carries a penalty of a $10,000 fine, 10 years in prison—or both!

To Name Drivers

The Chicago Defender has a list of the wild-cat drivers arrested and a close check is being kept on their activities. If they persist in their unlawful racket and continue to endanger the lives of the men, women and children of the communinty—their names will be published!

The owners and drivers of legitimate cabs joined with city authorities this week in the resolve to drive from the streets the 300 or more 'outlaw' private cars, which, operating without license, and with the protection of grafting police, are a constant threat to the safety and security of the traveling public.

The Chicago Defender, in an exclusive story last week, revealed that these 'outlaw' private car drivers, protected by certain police squads, roam the streets at will and pick up passengers that rightfully belong to the reputable drivers of legitimate, licensed cabs.

Picks Out Violators

One of the licensed drivers of a popular cab company, working with a Chicago Defender investigator, within a short time pointed out the following unlicensed, illegitimate cars, soliciting passengers on South Parkway:

6-17-44

947-681
73-975
591-856
371-760
10030-040
926-153
937-637

A number of other unlicensed 'outlaw' cars were found operating on both Prairie and Indiana avenues, violating city ordinances and the rules and regulations adopted by the Public Vehicle License Commissioner.

6-17-44

Other drivers of licensed cabs reported that the police involved in the 'shake-down' racket, were paid sums ranging from $3.00 to $7.00 daily by the wild-cat drivers and that the pay-off spot was at 30th and South Parkway.

The pay-off, they said, is made at the end of the day's business and that each grafting policeman had an itemized list of his 'shake-down' customers.

'Protected' Wild-cat Cars

Pointing to the danger of passengers riding in these 'protected' wild-cat cars, the licensed cabmen declared that the 'out-law' drivers may be chauffeurs who have been denied licenses by the city; they may be ex-convicts, 'liquor heads' or other irresponsible persons, and all adding up to a constant accident hazard and a distinct menace to unsuspecting men, women and children passengers.

In contrast to the free-lance, wild-cab driver who can offer no protection to passengers in their cars, are the rigid rules and regulations required of the legitimate, licensed cabmen, all of which are ignored by the 'outlaw' operators.

To operate a taxicab, it was pointed out, the drivers must have:

1—**A taxicab stand license.**
2—**A $2,500 bond and liability insurance required by the State.**
3—**Must pay $55.00 compensation Tax to City Vehicle Bureau.**
4—**Must possess a liability Insurance Policy.** 6-17-44
5—**Must display City and State licenses.**
6—**Must display the name of person or the company to whom the licenses were issued.**
7—**Must display the number of that taxicab license.**

The licensed drivers also declared that the legal, licensed cabs are easy to identify by passengers, as all licenses issued to legitimate cabs, begin with the Number O. Therefore any cab whose license number does not begin with that Number O, is an 'outlaw' or unlicensed cab, conducting an illegal business and subject to severe penalties.

Use 'Black Market' Gas

An indication of possible prosecution by the Government for the illegal use of 'black market' gasoline, was pointed out by the licensed cabmen, who declared that the maximum allowance for private cars is THREE GALLONS PER WEEK!

It is definitely known, say the licensed drivers, that these 'outlaw' operators of private cars for public hire, USE AS HIGH AS 40 GALLONS OF GASOLINE A DAY! This, in contrast to the MAXIMUM ALLOWANCE OF 3 GALLONS PER WEEK, FOR PRIVATE CARS—means that the wild-cat, unlicensed taxicab drivers—ARE USING 280 GALLONS PER WEEK!

There is absolutely no way for the 'outlaw' cab drivers to get this prohibitive amount of gasoline daily, say the licensed cabmen, except through 'black market' filling stations, and a number of the latter are said to be already under surveillance.

6-17-44

An indication of the severe penalty faced by these irresponsible, wild-cat drivers, is the fact that they do not have the Federal Government CERTIFICATE OF WAR NECESSITY. This Certificate is furnished by the Government to qualified and licensed operators of taxicabs, buses and trucks and specifies the number of gallons of gasoline and the number of miles of travel, allotted to these vehicles, per quarter.

Since the private cars and unlicensed, 'outlaw' drivers are not ENTITLED TO, AND CANNOT GET the Certificate of War Necessity, they are subject to Federal prosecution and if convicted, face a penalty of $10,000 FINE, 10 YEARS IN PRISON—OR BOTH! 6-17-44

As a result of the expose of the 'outlaw' private car racket, and the crusade to correct the evil started by the Chicago Defender, Chicago's reputable cab owners and their hard-working, respected and qualified drivers are working together in greater harmony and cooperation than ever before.

Negro Motormen In Indianapolis

The People's Voice N.Y.N.Y. 12-2-44

INDIANAPOLIS—Twenty Negro motormen will be taken on for training by the Indianapolis Street Railway Company, it was announced by E. Louis Moore, business representatives of the National Industrial and Domestic Workers' Alliance. They will be trained for six weeks as the result of an agreement reached in conference with railway officials on October 5. 12-2-44

The negotiations were conducted and perfected without interference from the local FEPC, it was stated. The local Amalgamated Association of Street Railway and Motor Coach Employees took up the matter of admitting Negroes to the union with the international office, but it was referred back to the local, which had already committed itself to the employment of Negroes. 12-2-44

The names of twenty men have been certified to the railway company for employment following the usual trainees' course. If any fail

Montclair Girl Is Made Sales Clerk

AFRO-AMERICAN 10-7-44 Balto. Md.

NEWARK, N.J. — Miss Leah Samuels of 10 Elmwood Street, Montclair, has been employed as sales clerk in a Newark department store, Roy Norris, Urban League industrial secretary, announced this week.

She recently started to work for the Michaels' Department Store at Market and Washington Streets, is a graduate of the Montclair High School and has had sales clerk experience in a Montclair drug store.

Backed by League of Women Shoppers

The placement was made by Mr. Norris, who was aided by Miss Dorothy Hutchinson, physical education supervisor of the Montclair public schools, and Mrs. Philip Levy, chairman of the League of Women Shoppers.

The league secretary said Miss Hutchinson "brought the understanding of a keen and very intelligent white woman interested in civic betterment to conferences with store officials and with them brought about a better approach to the problem of increased employment for colored girls."

First Saleswomen Hired by Large Boston Stores

Afro American Baltimore, Md.

BOSTON — Following conferences between Seaton W. Manning, executive secretary, and Edward L. Cooper, industrial secretary of the Urban League here, and downtown department stores, colored women were employed as saleswomen in many of the stores last week. 12-16-44

Gilchrist's was the first to act, employing Misses Betty Gray, Gloria Brown and Mamille Johnson on the first floor counters. The Jordan Marsh Company is another of the stores which has hired or upgraded women to the position.

Labor Forum

N.Y., N.Y. Amsterdam News

Post-War Job Security

SENIORITY—there can be no tampering with this principle for which American workers black and white have fought—and in some cases—died.

Today, it is the cornerstone of trade union job policy. It is accepted by civil service and by liberal private employers as sound and just.

Mr. Weston

Next to actually getting a job, no obstacle has been more heartbreaking to ambitious and efficient Negro workers than the schemes of prejudiced supervisors in government service and private employment to trick Negro workers out of promotions due them on basis of seniority.

Until the militant CIO (Congress of Industrial Organizations) was organized, Negroes carried on the fight for seniority protection almost alone. 9-23-44

The right to keep one's job and get promotions on basis of seniority means a lot to America's black workers. They want no fooling around with seniority.

At the same time, Negro workers must be given a fair and just opportunity to make a living. They want jobs. They must have jobs.

Right now, they have approximately 1,500,000 jobs in war industries and almost 500,000 in federal agencies. They want to keep those jobs. They want more.

There are close to 1,000,000 Negroes in the armed forces. They, too, want decent jobs when they come home.

And Negro women—who for the first time have been getting a chance to be something besides kitchen mechanics, maids and wash room attendants—want to keep their new found jobs and the dignity that goes with doing skilled work in office as well as in factory. In fact, they want more of them.

Due to the foolish jim crow policy of most private employers, government officials and AFL (American Federation of Labor) unions, Negro workers were kept out of most of the jobs they now hold. Thus, through no fault of their own, few of them have any seniority to amount to anything.

What Will Happen?

What is going to happen to them when reconversion really gets under way, when large scale layoffs, however temporary, take place?

Thoughtful Negro workers want an answer **now**—not when they are out on the street. Some white workers, too, are thinking about problems just around the corner.

Negroes go along with the over-all program of the President and of organized labor—CIO and AFL—that **everybody must have a job.** They know **this is the only answer in the long run.** They know that industry must be reconverted quickly and kept going at full blast. They also know that reactionaries in Congress and big business circles have refused to make any real plans to carry out this program.

While we are fighting for a job for everybody without discrimination, there are going to be layoffs—and big ones! The immediate question then is WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN WHILE WE ARE FIGHTING FOR THE BIGGER PROGRAM?

WILL NEGROES BE THE FIRST FIRED BECAUSE THEY WERE THE LAST HIRED? The answer must be NO!

Army officials have announced that there will be an over-all reduction of 37 to 40% in war production as soon as the war in Europe is won. And that will be soon. UNLESS SOME PLAN IS MADE NOW, THIS WOULD THROW PRACTICALLY EVERY NEGRO NOW EMPLOYED IN WAR PRODUCTION OUT ON THE STREET. That is the way strict seniority would work out! The last in, the first out.

A Way Must Be Found

AT THE SAME TIME, LABOR, GOVERNMENT, AND INDUSTRY MUST FIND A WAY, SOME FORMULA, FOR KEEPING THE MAXIMUM NUMBERS OF NEGROES EMPLOYED. That number must be maintained. In addition, thousands of white workers who held skilled jobs before the war will be let out. They have been accumulating seniority while in the army. The seniority principle must be maintained. In the long run it is the Negro worker's best weapon for fighting against being frozen at the bottom. They will have priority on jobs. And they should.

should not be less proportionately than the over-all number now employed. In fact, it must be higher.

Organized labor must come to grips with this problem now. In 1932, there were scarcely 50,000 Negro members of trade unions. In July, 1944, there were approximately 1,000,000. Most of them in war work belong to unions. A million unemployed members in one minority would play havoc with the labor movement.

9-23-44

Two CIO unions, one in Bridgeport and one in Detroit, have worked out a stop-gap solution to the layoff problem! **A proportional representation policy.** This is a start.

LABOR FORUM ADVOCATES THE PROPORTIONAL REPRESENTATION PLAN UNTIL A BETTER ONE IS FOUND. BUT NOT AS A CURE ALL. THERE ARE MANY SITUATIONS WHERE IT WOULD NOT BRING ABOUT THE MAXIMUM EMPLOYMENT OF NEGRO WORKERS.

One Way: Union-Government-Industry Agreements

Unions, private employers and civil service administrators should now begin to work out public agreements designed to keep the maximum number of Negro workers employed during reconversion and after the war. They must act now, to prevent the irresponsible policy followed after the last war of just letting the Negro edge out in the street—without a job, hungry and mad. It led to riots and bloodshed then. It must not happen this time. It will not, if labor, government and industry show vision and statesmanship in tackling the problem, while there is yet time.

Number of Negroes in Post Office Here Increases From 69 to 323 in 10 Years

Call-Kansas City, Mo.

10-13-44

To fill the gaps caused by the induction of its regular employes into the armed forces, the Kansas City post office is employing women in jobs which before the war were always handled by men.

Colored women have their share of these new jobs brought on by the war emergency and their performance is such that Postmaster Alexander Graham would like to have more of them.

During the past 10 years under Postmaster Graham, the number of Negroes employed in the Kansas City post office has been increased four and a half times. In 1934, there were 69 Negroes on the P. O. payroll. Now, there are 323, 61 of whom are Negro women. The total number of post office employes is about 1800, making Negroes about 17 per cent of the post office personnel.

The Negro employes are well integrated through the post office system. Whites and Negroes work side by side on cases where mail is distributed. No attempt is made to place Negroes together during the various working periods.

10-13-44

White and Negro carriers work together in the various sub-stations and no thought is given whether a special delivery messenger or a vehicle driver is white or colored.

The increase in Negro employes is shown in the following table:

Classification	1934	1944
Carriers	30	86
Chauffeur Carriers	3	4
Clerks	2	36
Mail Handlers	10	48
Motor Vehicle Service	1	4
Special Delivery Messengers	2	2
Custodial	21	143
Totals	69	323

Some of the women who are employed as post office clerks and Postmaster Graham says are doing "a grand job" are:

Mary Anderson, 2200 E. 9th; Mildred A. Byrd, 2626 Woodland; Wilma H. Jones, 2631 Garfield; Hattie A. Martin, 417 E. Van Horn, Independence; Mary I. Tellis, 417 E. Van Horn, Independence; Annie L. Thompson, 2804 E. 24th; Allie Wells, R. 3, No. 48th, Kansas City, Kas.; Mary E. Bradley, 2215 E. 9th; Marceline D. Braxton, RR No 2, Bethel, Kas.; Estella B. Carr, 1512 E. 14th.

10-13-44

Vivian G. Florence, 2507 Park; Lillian B. Green, 2315 N. 4th, Kansas City, Kas.; Gertrude D. Harris, 1026 State St., Kansas City, Kas.; Maysie D. Hughes, 406 W. 43rd Terr.; Bernice C. Johnson, 2536 Michigan; Jessie S. Johnson, 209 Park; Vauncile M. Kelton, 2417-A E. 23rd; Irene W. Marcus, 2432 Park.

Evelyn A. Pride, 2440 Paseo; Sadie R. R. Rogers, 2821 Park; Beatrice M. Stevenson, 1118 Freeman, Kansas City, Kas.; Helen M. Tabor, 2116 Troost; Anna R. Washington, 2735 Garfield; Ruth L. Williams, 1330 E. 17th; Julia A. Wise, 2221 Forest.

These women work full-time and find great enjoyment in their work. Their duties consist of sorting mail, some being assigned to the special delivery letters, some to air mail, some to city mail, others to mail for distant points. Some work the cancelling machine. None of the jobs are strenuous, the heavy work still being in the hands of men.

10-13-44

Bell Telephone Company Employs Two Girl Clerks

AFRO-American Balt., Md.

12-30-44

PHILADELPHIA

The appointments of two young women, Misses Vivian Brizell of 917 S. Twenty-third Street and Eula Cobb of 5712 Cambridge Street, as clerks with the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania were revealed officially on Monday.

The selection of the young women was made as a result of the recent test employment of colored clerks and switchboard operators in New York City.

Hiring of the two young women, according to Lewis J. Carter, industrial secretary of the Armstrong Association, came as a result of a series of negotiations he began a year ago to have the company employ colored workers in white-collar jobs.

Some to Become Operators

At that time the firm did not employ colored clerical help, but expressed a willingness to consider Carter's plan.

As a result, a job order was placed with the association three weeks ago for a number of clerks, with the understanding that some of them would be upgraded later to switchboard operators.

Miss Brizell was formerly employed as a clerk with the Silent Watchman Corporation of New York City. She reported to work on Tuesday as a receptionist on the floor where the executive offices are located. Miss Cobb is a recent graduate of Cheyney Teachers' College.

Philip C. Staples, president of the Bell Company, drew definite conclusions from the New York experiment by approving the appointment of colored clerks. In a letter to the local office of the FEPC, he cites the chances for colored operators:

Letter to FEPC Quoted

"In regard to the New York situation, I am well aware of the steps that have been taken by that company and we are watching the experiment with a great deal of interest. However, you must admit that in many ways New York is entirely different from Philadelphia.

"The cosmopolitan attitude of the residents of New York in general is totally foreign to the attitude of the residents of Philadelphia and surrounding vicinities. It may be possible after some time has passed to draw very definite conclusions from the New York experiment."

Big Steel Has Employed Colored Workers 50 Years

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

12-2-44

Largest Shipbuilding Corporation Boasts of Non-Discriminatory Employment Policies

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK — The Bethlehem Steel Corporation, considered the largest shipbuilder and the second largest steel producer in the world, has been employing colored help for the past fifty years in all skilled and unskilled positions.

This information was revealed to the AFRO this week in an exclusive interview with C. H. Hodges, employment manager, in the company's personnel offices at 102 Chambers Street.

12-2-44

"We've never discriminated against colored applicants," he explained, "and we never will. I don't know the exact figure on how many of them are working for us, but you can be sure that the number runs into thousands.

Opposed in Baltimore

"We had a heap of trouble several years ago in our Baltimore shipyard, where we hired colored mechanics for the first time.

"Many white employees objected to working with them, and a lot of them quit because of this. However, the company stood its ground and won out in the end. Now, colored and whites work side by side there in harmony, producing the ships for victory.

"Another thing you've got to consider," he continued, "is that most of our new colored employees are unskilled, and we take the time to train them for the most difficult and skilled operations.

Foremen and Supervisors

"This is paying dividends to Bethlehem in that they eventually become some of our best mechanics. In fact, we have quite a few colored foremen and supervisors.

12-2-44

"Even colored women who never had any experience with electricity beyond changing an electric bulb or plugging in a toaster are now being taught the essentials of marine electrical work."

The AFRO asked Mr. Hodges whether the coming of peace and the consequent return of war veterans to their former jobs at the company would affect the continued employment of colored people.

Few Changes Anticipated

"I don't think it will," he answered. "Remember, Bethlehem Steel has employed colored help for a half century, and these men and women have seniority rights too.

"It isn't like the other companies who have only been hiring them since the war, making their seniority only a question of a couple of years and leading to their displacement by returning veterans.

12-2-44

"We have 17 steel manufacturing plants and 10 shipyards which we expect to operate at full capacity after the war is over. Whenever there are jobs to be had, colored applicants will always stand the same chance as whites. That will always be our policy."

N.Y. Hires First Phone Operator

Afro American Baltimore Md.

12-9-44

NEW YORK — The employment of the first colored telephone switchboard operator this week by the New York Telephone Company was hailed by leaders here as a major victory in the fight for fair employment practices in industry.

Baltimore, Md.

Mrs. Muriel Conyer of Brooklyn, the first to complete training, reported for work on December 4. Twenty-five others will start to work at exchanges "all over town" as soon as they have met all routine requirements.

By its action, the company, which already had in its employ about 200 colored workers in so-called "white-collar" jobs, became the first in any major city to hire colored operators.

Edward S. Lewis, executive secretary of the Urban League of Greater New York, said that the issue was first brought to public attention in 1937, when a company manager said that the company would not consider hiring colored operators.

Although campaigns against the policy failed, a delegation, headed by the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, obtained from the company a promise to employ colored workers in other than menial jobs.

FEPC Called in June

In June, Mrs. Lillian C. Robinson, who was rejected as an operator but referred to the clerical department, filed a complaint with the FEPC regional office, of which Edward Lawson is director.

Without a hearing, the FEPC secured an agreement to hire competent women as operators. Nearly 200 were found by the Urban League.

35g-1944

POPULAR CONDUCTORS ON STREET CARS

Defender — Chicago, Ills. 10-14-44

10-14-44

ese attractive young women are motorettes d conductorettes on Cleveland's stree' cars d are among the most popular of the city ployes. They are doing a splendid job handling the huge crowds traveling to and from the business districts and make a smart appearance in their trim uniforms. They are also members of the interracial Transit Club.

641, 931 Given Industrial Jobs

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

12-6-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (SNS) — A total of 641,931 on-white workers was placed in non-agricultural jobs by e War Manpower Commission revealed this week. These eptember 30, 1944, the Reports and Analysis Service of e War Manpower Commission revealed this week. These on-white placements represented 18.2 per cent of total acements and an increase of 38.8 per cent over non-white acements during a similar period in 1943.

Although unskilled and service bs accounted for 572,184 of the ly-September placements of non- hite workers, the number of illed and semi-skilled non-white acements increased 38.1 per cent nd 44 per cent, respectively, over e 1943 period. During the 1944 riod, 15,943 non-whites were plac- i unskilled jobs, and 47,289 in mi-skilled jobs. A total of 6,041 on-whites was placed in clerical nd sales positions, and 483 in rofessional and managerial posi- ons.

ECLINE SHOWN

Despite the increase in non-white acements, the Reports and Ana- is Service reported a net decline of 300,000 non-agricultural placements between September 1943 and September 1944. Agricultural employment declined by 400,000 during the July-September 1944 period, but there was an increase of 500,000 women in war industries.

The report pointed out that for every month during 1944, the number of women in industry was greater than that of the same month in 1943, making it apparent that the number of women entering the labor force has been sufficiently large to more than offset the exit of women from the labor market.

12-6-44

For certain components of non-agricultural activities, significant changes in employment were shown between September 1943 and September 1944. The decrease in munitions employment amounted to 900,000 for the whole country. Other manufacturing activities decreased by 400,000. Similarly, there was a 400,00 drop in construction placements. These declines were partially offset by an increase in trade and service placements.

MORE MEN NEEDED

The report stated the labor market must face raises in production requirements for some type of war equipment. The effort to expedite deliveries in shipbuilding has maintained labor needs at an almost impossible level. To step up tank output to the required high rate calls for staff increases in a few plants in tight areas. Greatly increased cotton duck and tent twill requirements are most urgently related to the impending winter campaign in Europe. The problem in foundries and logging are critical and persistent, the report stated.

12-6-44

Va. Cotton Mill Yields to Hate Strikers, Fires Women

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

6-10-44

By B. T. GILLESPIE
AFRO Staff Correspondent

DANVILLE, Va.—The twelve-day strike of white Riverside and Dan River Cotton Mill employees was ended Monday when company officials and the CIO Textile Workers' Union agreed to discontinue the services of colored women as spinners.

The strike, begun by a small number of white spinners on May 22 when the company first put colored women on the spinning machines in an effort to fill urgent Army and Navy contracts, had spread to a point where more than 2,500 workere were idle.

Separate Mill "Impractical"

Boyd E. Payton, regional director for the union in Virginia, West Virginia and Maryland, told the AFRO that he had proposed the staffing of a separate mill by colored workers as a compromise to end the strike.

Company officials, however, are said to have rejected the plan as impractical, due to the lack of a sufficient number of colored workers trained in all the required skills.

6-10-44

Basil D. Browder, vice-president of the mill, who announced the company's decision to yield to the strikers in an effort to maintain production, attributed the strike to "unfounded rumors," and made it clear that he expected the union to see that all vacancies in the plant were filled within a reasonable time.

6-10-44

No Violence Reported

There were no violent demonstrations during the strike.

Several employees interviewed indicated that the original objections of the white spinners was due in part to the fact that the colored women were turning out more and better work.

There was some dispute as to whether a racial wage differential existed. Paul Robinson, white CIO official, said the rates were the same for both races, but Porter A. Young, colored executive committee member, denied this. Mr. Young also denied that members of his group, Local 511, had supported the CIO in its stand for dismissing the colored spinners.

He and other members of the local, of which James Lindsey is president, expressed resentment over the extent to which they have been left out of the affairs of the union, in spite of the payment of 25-cent weekly dues.

6-10-44

"Split Down River"

DuBoise E. Younger, vice-president of Local 511, told the AFRO Tuesday that neither he nor the president, Lindsey, knew anything about the agreement until it was announced through the papers.

"I feel that the CIO has sold us down the river," he said. "I am not only in favor of all colored members' walking out of the CIO, but would like to see every one of them walk out of the mills.

"The CIO has not kept its promise. I thought the CIO was built on Democratic principles. If I remain as a member, I am going to fight this action to the finish. I can see now the union has been using us as a tool."

Special Meeting Planned

Mr. Younger substantiated Mr. Young's charge that the union had refused to give them a paid worker, although the white local has several paid workers, and said that the executive committee of Local 511 would call a special meeting soon.

6-10-44

He confirmed the statement of Miss Catherine Knight, white CIO member, that the company, in its action, was trying to split the colored and white members of the CIO, but he criticized the CIO heads in supporting the action.

Use Negro Women In Industry, Urges Group Magazine

Ledger Enquirer — Columbus, Ga.

11-19-44

ATLANTA, Nov. 18—(AP)—The south's textile industry labor shortage could largely be met by using Negro women, the Southern Frontier, publication of the Southern Regional Council, Inc., said in its current issue. The council is composed of Southerners—white and Negro.

The publication said Negro women in the south offer a "virtually untouched" reservoir of woman power," and asked:

"Would it not be sound business practice for the cotton textile industry in the South to turn its attention to this almost untapped reservoir of woman power?"

Negro women are being used successfully as machine operators in a number of the largest textile plants in the South, the article asserted, adding.

"One plant that employs more than 5,000 people is over 40 per cent operated by Negroes, predominantly Negro women. That plant is meeting its production schedules, employe relations are good, and management is well pleased with the performance of

26 Operators

12-9-44

Colored women are being hir ed as telephone operators in New York, it was announced last week by the New York Telephone Company, a Bell System

New York Bell Hires

Telephone Herald — Pa.

provided management wants to use a total labor force and is willing to approach the situation squarely."

"Turnover really

publication asserted.

The mill employing Negro women, the paper said, approached the problem of employing Negro women through a program of plant education in which white workers were consulted in the steps taken.

"The number of white workers lost was negligible," the council asserted. The council publication asserted that regardless of sectional location "Negro workers can be introduced into a plant or their employment opportunities extended,

affiliate.

According to a company spokesman, the hiring of the 26 operators is in line with the company policy and not due solely to the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices.

In Philadelphia, however, there will be no corresponding action, although according to Vice-President Clarke, of the Bell Telephone Company of Pennsylvania there will be a number of colored girls hired as clerks. "Arrangements have already been made with the Armstrong Association, 1434 Lombard street," he said, "to refer a number of girls to us for those positions." 12-9-44

Meantime the regional office of the FEPC has been at work on the situation in Pennsylvania.

According to FEPC Regional Director G. J. Fleming, the Pittsburgh branch of the Bell System hired a number of girls last year as clerks. It is the policy of the company to upgrade workers to operators rather than hire them for those positions exclusively.

It is impossible, he said, to tell how the experiment in Pittsburgh worked out, as the turnover was high, due perhaps to the feeling among the workers that they would be denied advancement.

In Philadelphia there are approximately 6000 employees of the Bell Telephone Company, of whom about 4000 are women. There are only 55 colored employees. These are employed as elevator operators and in other custodial capacities.

There is a similar situation in New Jersey, which the FEPC is reviewing in Washington.

Four colored girls in Atlantic City, in answer to a series of advertisements, applied for jobs as switchboard operators. They were refused those positions, but were told that if they would go to Camden they would be hired as clerks. 12-9-44

In New Jersey there are about 14,600 employees of the Bell Telephone Company, of whom 39 are colored.

When the matter of employment of colored workers was brought to the attention of the New York office of the FEPC, Edward Lawson, former editor of Opportunity, who heads the office, requested the Urban League there to refer girls to the company for the operators' positions. One hundred and fifty answered the call and 26 have been selected to date. 12-9-44

When the local FEPC office was approached by one girl, a graduate of the Florence Ott Switchboard School, it immediately contacted Philip C. Staples, president of the Pennsylvania Bell Company, who replied in part:

"In regard to the New York situation, I am well aware of the steps which have been taken by that company and we are watching the experiment with a great deal of interest. However, you must admit that in many ways New York is entirely different from Philadelphia—and that the cosmopolitan attitude of New Yorkers in general is totally foreign to the attitude of the residents of Philadelphia and surrounding vicinities. It may be possible, after some time has passed, to draw very definite conclusions from the New York experiment." 12-9-44

Wayne L. Hopkins, executive secretary of the Armstrong Association, and L. J. Carter, Industrial secretary, confirmed the report that they were handling the referrals to the Pennsylvania Bell Telephone Company and added that a number of young women had been sent to the company on Tuesday of this week.

New York Telephone Company Employs 26 Negro Operators

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
12-9-44

NEW YORK—Twenty-six Negro switchboard operators began training on Monday for jobs with the New York Telephone company, marking the first time Negroes have been hired in that capacity in any principal city. The move was hailed as a major victory in the fight for fair employment practices in industry. A company official said, however, that the hiring of Negroes was not solely the result of FEPC action, but in line with company policy.

Edward Lawson, New York regional director of the FEPC, had high praise for the telephone company and said that only one complaint of its employment policies had been filed with FEPC and that it was found not valid. As a result of that complaint, however, the series of conferences that resulted in hiring Negroes was started, Mr. Lawson said.

NO SEGREGATION IN JOB ASSIGNMENTS

The conferences were friendly, Mr. Lawson said, in marked contrast to bitterness which characterized the issue in other years.

"This experiment," said Edward S. Lewis, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York, "will be watched by millions of persons, white and black alike, who are interested in seeing all our big industries drop racial barriers in their employment practices." 12-9-44

First of the people who have qualified for the switchboard jobs began training on Monday. Others of the 26 qualified applicants will start work as they complete medical examinations, obtain birth certificates or meet other routine requirements. The company said the Negro operators will be assigned to exchanges "all over town" as close to their homes as possible. They will start at $20 a week.

First applicant to complete her requirements for employment was Mrs. Muriel Conyers of 1164 Pacific street, Brooklyn, who was among those reporting for training on Monday.

NUMBER, PLEASE—Mrs. Helen C. Carter (left) and Mrs. Muriel E. Conyers, both of Brooklyn, were among the 26 Negroes hired last week as switchboard operators by the New York Bell Telephone company. This stands as another important first.

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa. 12-9-44

used employment though she was qualified.

7 YEARS AGO 12-2-44

Lewis recalled that back in 1937 a company traffic manager told a delegation that the firm **"didn't want any and wouldn't hire them even if perfectly competent workers applied."** At that time company operator personnel stood at 4,500.

Plenty of hard work and some dramatic techniques went into the campaign to break this Jimcrow. A "Don't-Use-Your-Phone" drive was sponsored by the People's Committee and the Coordinating Committee for Employment under the direction of Congressman-elect Adam Clayton Powell, Jr. Scores of organizations sent delegations. But this policy didn't really crack until FEPC, investigating a complaint by Mrs. Lillian Davis Robinson, made a thorough probe. 12-2-44

Without going through formal FEPC hearings, the company agreed to hire from among Negroes, and Edward Lawson, regional director, arranged with the Urban League for the referral of competent applicants to claim the jobs. Lewis said the league referred nearly 200, and that at least 30 qualified as operators are to be offered jobs.

Telephone companies generally follow discriminatory policies. It has been pointed out that in Ohio, where operators said they went on strike because out-of-towners were paid extra expense money, adequate local labor was available, but management refused to comply with FEPC directives and draw on Negro applicants.

Telephone Company Begins Calling Negro Applicants

New York Age, N. Y.
11-25-44

The New York Telephone Company, according to information received by George E. DeMar, the Industrial Relations Secretary of the Urban League of Greater New York, Inc., on Tuesday began calling in those who qualified as telephone operators. 11-25-44

O. M. Taylor, for the Company, said that 25 per cent of the Negro applicants, about 30, would qualify when they passed their physical examinations. He praised the Urban League's Industrial Department for its cooperation in securing desirable applicants.

Negro Operators Win N.Y. Phone Jobs

Daily Worker — New York, N. Y.
12-2-44

Under pressure from the Fair Employment Practices Committee, from the Urban League and from other organizations, the New York Telephone Co. has hired 26 Negro operators for the first time in the company's history.

This marks a high point in a campaign waged for nearly a decade by hundreds of individuals and organizations, according to Edward S. Lewis, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York.

First to be hired, he said, was Miss Muriel Conyers, who starts work Monday. The company said 25 others would report within a few days.

Under earlier pressure, Negroes were hired as stenographers, clerks, typists, coin collectors and tellers until the number reached nearly 200, but none were taken on as operators until an FEPC charge was filed by Mrs. Lillian Davis Robinson, a young Negro woman, who said she was refused employment though she was qualified.

Civil Service Commission Stops Hiring Negro Women

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.
6-24-44

WASHINGTON—The U. S. Civil Service Commission, indicating that housing was nonexistent for Negro women in the Washington area and asking that recruitment of the Civil Service Commission was revoked at once and for Federal work in Washington formal letter to rescind any action taken on the basis of this memorandum," he said. 6-24-44

The letter, signed by L. A. Moyer, executive director and chief examiner, cites information received from the National Housing Agency of the lack of housing for Negro women in Washington which, in effect, ends recruitment of single Negro women by the Civil Service Commission for Federal work in Washington.

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NO ACCOMMODATIONS

A NHA spokesman admitted to The Courier that one of its employees, John W. Hyde of the Washington Area office, had sent memorandum to Samuel Pond

35g-1944

PTC Has Made No Real Change In Its Policy Toward Negroes

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

(AN EDITORIAL)

THERE has been no real change in the employment policy of the Philadelphia Transportation Company in respect to colored workers. 7-13-44

Before March, the PTC declared its employment policy to be the creature of the then Company Union. Now there is no Company Union, but a bona fide CIO bargaining agent with a well-known reputation for fairness in employment. But the old policy still sticks.

The notice issued July 7th, which indicates that the PTC will employ Negroes as motormen, conductors, et cetera, very carefully explains that the Company is obeying an order of the War Manpower Commission.

Here is how the notice reads:

"'In furtherance of the war effort and for the purpose of achieving the most effective utilization of the services of labor in essential and locally needed activities, all hiring and solicitation of workers in, or for work, in the Philadelphia area shall be conducted in accordance with the employment Stabilization Plan.' In accordance with that plan, the Philadelphia Transportation Company will obtain new MALE employees through the United States Employment Service. The United States Employment Service is required to refer to employers, and this Company will accept, those who qualify for open positions without regard to the applicant's race, creed, color or national origin."

It should be remembered that the War Manpower Commission's orders, rules and regulations are the result of the exigencies of war. The Commission changes these orders from time to time as the manpower situation requires. It is possible, therefore, that the order which demands that the U. S. Employment Service supply the PTC with workers may be changed within a short time. What then would happen to prospective colored employees? 7-15-44

The position that the PTC has not let down the color bar is further supported by the fact that no colored women are being accepted as trainees for jobs as cashiers, conductors and motormen. And the statement has been made by a competent Company spokesman that none will be so employed. It is common knowledge that women are the principal available source of manpower at the present time. Apparently, it is the intention of the PTC simply to meet the letter of the law, while clinging to its employment policy of discrimination.

How simple it would be for the PTC to abide by the directive of the FEPC and stop all this shadow-boxing! The only criteria for measuring the fairness of the PTC is its employment policy as to women, who are not secured through the WMC. A sufficient supply would preclude the PTC from seeking male employees through the WMC. And even if they do, there are ways to avoid hiring colored employees. Since the Company is pushing its employment of white women, its refusal to employ colored women is self-evident of its intention to continue PTC's policy of racial discrimination.

7-15-44

It is clear from the above that we doubt the sincerity of the Philadelphia Transportation Company. There is presently but one way for the PTC and the Transport Workers Union (CIO) to remove this doubt and prove good faith. That is for them to expressly state in their unsigned contract that no employee or applicant shall be denied upgrading or employment because of his or her race, creed, color or national origin.

Only by such a provision will fair employment be obtained during and after the war.

This whole employment controversy was known to the Transport Workers Union before it won the right to act as bargaining agent for PTC workers; and we went along with the Union on the proposition that action would be taken if and when it won.

7-15-44

Knowing how the PTC hid behind a clause in the contract with the old Company Union to Negro detriment, we can not for the life of us see how the TWU can do less than insist on a clear-cut clause against discrimination in its pending contract.

Negro Tram Worker Plan Is Studied

Wyatt Group Considers W.M.C. Proposal

A proposal by the War Manpower Commission that the Louisville Railway Company employ Negro bus and streetcar operators on certain runs is under consideration by the executive committee of Mayor Wilson W. Wyatt's Interracial Committee, it was learned yesterday.

The W.M.C. said it had recommended to the street railway company that it investigate the possibility of using Negroes before taking on any replacements or adding any yorkers, in view of the male labor shortage.

Walter Case, international representative of the Transport Workers Union of America, C.I.O., said a representative of the National Labor Relations Board is being sent here to investigate the labor relations policies of the railway company. Case filed a petition last week asking the N.L.R.B. to supervise a bargaining agent election among the 850 employes of the company. Case said his union claimed "well over 30 per cent" of workers required to conduct an election.

Red Cross Hires Negro Stenographers

Call — Kansas City, Mo. 9-1-44

Branch of Service

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Another phase of the work of the American Red Cross has been invaded by Negro workers, it is learned. Two weeks ago the home service correspondence division hired Mrs. Vashti N. Chandler of Washington as a senior correspondent and others are being employed now. They work along-side of white employes.

The work of this division is to answer all inquiries coming in by letter, telephone, telegraph, telegram or otherwise, dealing with the families of servicemen or the men themselves. It is a 24-hour service.

Recently an appeal was made for such correspondents at the monthly luncheon meeting of the American Association of Social Workers with which a number of local Negroes are affiliated. The next morning Mrs. Chandler applied, was refused employment. She appealed the matter to Jesse O. Thomas, racial relations adviser.

9-1-44

Shortly thereafter, it is understood, a directive was sent to the employment service for the agency that qualified Negroes were to be hired for the positions. Stenographers are eagerly being sought for ARC.

Postal Packin' Mamas Await Males

Courier-Journal — Negroes Section

By HOWARD HARDAWAY

Photos by the Author

LAST holiday season the teen-age kids scored a bull's-eye in terminology when they referred to the women carriers of Christmas mail as "postal packin' mamas." Now—with so many into service—were it not for packin' mamas a lot of mail would be in danger of not moving at all.

Hershel A. McKinley, carrier of a six-mile route in Clinton County, into the Army. Mrs. McKinley immediately took over, carrying the mail from Albany to the postoffices of Cartwright and Seventy Six and to 170 individual boxes.

"My first day was a real initiation," laughed Mrs. McKinley; "the rain came down in torrents."

When the Navy called Raymond Duncan, carrier of the mail from Monticello to Frisby, his mother, Mrs. Lula Duncan, took over. Aunt Lou, as she is known to all the Monticello people to whom she brings fresh garden truck on the three days a week she comes for the mail, will be in soon have her sixtieth birthday.

But her sixty years don't hold her back from making her rounds, winter and summer, in an open buggy. The only device she carries is a mailbag, for the mail bags, for the elements.

"Have I ever had any particularly interesting experience? Yes, I have," she responds promptly. "One day last winter, it was storming pretty bad—almost a blizzard. The wind almost blew me away.

8-13-44

"Finally I said: 'Lord, I'm doing your work, and you've got to help me. Won't

Lou has another son, Lawrence, in the Army.

you calm that wind?'

"And before I got to the end of the next field, the wind stopped blowing."

Besides having her son Raymond, the former mail carrier, in the Navy, Aunt

NEGRO BUS AND TROLLEY DRIVERS ARE NOTHING NEW

Detroit race riots, Chicago, Negroes

NEW YORK (C. F.)—Negro were driving bus and nobody motormen and bus drivers are old molested them.)

Detroit, the Fair Employment Practices Committee pointed out yesterday, has 1000 Negro men and 150 Ngero women in operating jobs. (Even during the De-

Western RR Hires Negro Stewards

People's Voice — New York, N. Y.
6-17-44

CHICAGO (ANP)—The Milwaukee railroad has agreed to the employment of qualified Negroes as stewards in its dining car service, it was announced today by Elmer W. Henderson, regional director of the FEPC in Chicago. Negotiations between the company and FEPC had been instituted on the basis of complaints received from representatives of the Joint Council of Dining Car Employees, AFL, and the United Transport Service employees of America, CIO, that qualified Negro waiters and waiters-in-charge were denied positions as stewards solely because of their race.

In order to effect this change in policy it was necessary for the company first to conclude a special agreement with the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen which has jurisdiction over the stewards which permitted a change in existing seniority rules. Now that this has been accomplished, the company is in a position to proceed in accordance with the President's executive order banning discrimination in employment in war industries.

6-17-44

"This is a significant forward step by the Milwaukee railroad and we are making an effort to secure similar commitments from other railroads in this area," Henderson said. The Pennsylvania and the Chicago and Northwestern railroads have already announced that Negroes would be employed as stewards as a result of negotiations with FEPC.

L. A. HAS 14 NEGROES NOW OPERATING TRAMS

Plaindealer
Kansas City, Kan.

Los Angeles.—Seven Negro conductors and an additional seven conductorettes who graduated from their training courses began regular runs on the Los Angeles Railway company street cars Wednesday under the supervision of competent workers.

8-5-44

In order to avoid a situation similar to the Philadelphia incident, the U. S. Army and local law enforcement agencies are on the alert for any untoward reaction that might possibly occur.

During the training period of the Negro operators, there were no visible signs of resentment.

Race Friction At Minimum Among Chicago Bus Drivers

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
8-19-44

By LUTHER A. TOWNSLEY

Chicago —(ANP)—Probably in no other industry here has race relations been better than among white and colored bus drivers of this city, declared James W. Maddox, one of the 30 colored bus drivers who has been praised more than once for his efficiency and courtesy, last week.

Maddox, the father of three children, was one of the first of his race to be employed by the Chicago Bus company as a bus driver. He began work January 4. Personifying modesty, even diffidence, Maddox admitted when questioned that he was somewhat burdened by the weighty responsibility of making good on his new job for the sake of other members of his race. Hhe should not fail, he said.

8-19-44

8-19-44

The eyes of Negroes and their white friends were on him. While his high school education at Tilden Tech and his 10 years' driving experience equipped him for the mechanical phases of his job, he had to win his way into the hearts of his fellow white workers. How would the white public react?

"I found my white workers very friendly," he revealed. In fact, I was surprised. It was better than I expected."

Maddox declared that he encountered no union trouble at all. The union and its officials welcomed the new bus drivers, he said. Maddox discovered that tact and courtesy paid rich dividends in the union meetings and in winning the approval of a dubious public.

"The great majority of white people openly endorse the employment of colored bus drivers," he declared. "They demonstrate their approvial in many ways. I often get a friendly smile, a slight wink, to encourage me." Maddox told about the time his supervisor called him in the office to read a letter from a white woman who praised his courtesy. A white man took his badge number, called the office, and assured them they had made no mistake about hiring colored.

8-19-44

"I get along with people by just going along," he remarked shyly 'A lot of times you run into people who are a bit 'crabby,' but I merely smile and everything turns out all right."

Assigned to the South Parkway run, between the downtown district and 81st street, Maddox is very optimistic about the Negro's post-war future with the bus company.

"I have been told that the chances of remaining with the bus company after the war are good," he revealed. "It all depends upon us."

Although born in La Grange, Ga. Maddox received his academic training in Chicago. His work records show that he has had considerable experience with handling the public. His jobs range from bell boy to assistant theatre manager.

8-19-44

His hobby is music. He is a pianist and composer. Among the songs he has written is "I'm Going To Start Myself A Racket," a number popularized by the torch singer, Lil Green. While he admits having no experience with a large musical aggregation, he heads a four man musical group known as the "Four Shadows."

The big inspirations of his life, however, are his wife, Juanita and his three "little ones," Beatrice, 8; James, Jr. 7; and Francine, 4.

State Plumbers Form Seaboard Association

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.
6-10-44

16 Delegates At Conference In Newport News

NEWPORT NEWS — With an eye single to opportunities awaiting them in their field in the post-war world, 16 plumbers held a one-day conference here on June 1 and organized The Eastern Seaboard plumbing and Heating Association. Henry M. Scott, local contractor, presided.

The conferees came from Lawrenceville, Richmond, Martinsville, Petersburg, Hampton and Newport News. Among them were eight master plumbers, two plumbing instructors in Virginia colleges, and six journeymen.

ADVISERS AND SPEAKERS

William M. Whitehead, principal and superintendent of the Virginia State School for Negro Deaf and Blind, where the business sessions were held; T. J. Pree, steward at St. Paul Polytechnic Institute; and Samuel A. Haynes, Peninsula manager of the Journal and Guide, served as advisers and guest speakers to the craftsmen.

Plumbing problems intensified by the war and the manpower shortage, such as priorities, contracts, wages and legislation affecting the trade, were all touched upon during the discussions.

POST-WAR VISION

6-10-44

Emphasis on the role of trade unions in dictating the course of politics and the national economy in the post-war world, and the importance of making and preserving goodwill and professional associations with white contractors and journeymen, was made by Mr. Haynes who handles public relations for labor unions and organizations on the Peninsula.

Officers elected were Henry M. Scott, Newport News, president; William S. Myers, Petersburg, vice president; J. Thomas Ransome, Hampton, secretary; William A. Carter, Richmond, treasurer. The new organization will meet again in December at St. Paul Polytechnic Institute.

6-10-44

The delegates were entertained in the new club room of the Metro Grill on Chestnut avenue.

In attendance were: from Newport News, Henry C. Scott, Carl A. Scott, John Scott, John F. Martin, Harold Gray, J. W. Baylor, Holcomb Burbine; from Richmond, William A. Carter Jr., James Holcomb; from Petersburg, William S. Myers; from Martinsville, Matthew Mitchell; from Lawrenceville, M. O. Poole, instructor at St. Paul Polytechnic Institute; from Hampton, Julian H. Lipscomb, instructor at Hampton Institute; J. Thomas Ransome, James Austin, and Charles W. Dixon.

Western Union Hires Five In Mississippi

Amsterdam News 6-3-44
New York, N. Y.

JACKSON, Miss. (ANP)—Hailed here as a precedent, five Negro boys have been given employment as messengers by the Western Union, marking the first time colored boys have been used locally by the company since World War I.

Commenting on their service, the manager of the delivery department said that the work of the boys has already proven to be highly satisfactory and stated that the office was seeking the service of at least four others immediately.

14 Negroes Now Operating L. A. Trams

Defender—Chicago, Ill.
6-3-44

By J. ROBERT SMITH

LOS ANGELES — Seven Negro conductors and an additional seven conductorettes who graduated from their training courses began regular runs on the Los Angeles Railway company street cars Wednesday under the supervision of competent workers.

In order to avoid a situation similar to the Philadelphia incident, the U. S. Army and local law enforcement agencies are on the alert for any untoward reaction that might possibly occur.

During the training period of the Negro operators, there were no visible signs of resentment.

HER SON RAYMOND joined the Navy and Mrs. Lula Duncan, 60, Monticello, took over his route to Frisby, delivering by buggy.

35g-1944

Negro Phone Operators Begin Training Course

PEOPLE'S VOICE N.Y., N.Y.

News last week that the NY Telephone Company had set a national precedent by hiring Negro girls as telephone operators, ended a long and arduous campaign on the part of Negro leaders and organizations who viewed the step as historic. Monday morning the company took on for training the first of the twenty-six switchboard operators it had announced it will employ. The rest of the qualified applicants will begin training as they complete the routine requirements for all applicants. 12-9-44

The company stated the girls would be employed all over the city. Joseph E. Swierbinski, attorney for the Traffic Employees Association, an independent union of telephone operators, said there would be no problem in the union because of the employment of Negroes.

FEPC HEAD PLEASED

Malcolm Ross, National Chairman of FEPC said that the company's employment plan "Represents the satisfactory and fruitful adjustment of complaints filed recently." The FEPC has been negotiating with the company for several months and at present has cases filed in almost every region of the country where the Bell Telephone Company operates.

Company officials, however, claimed that hiring of Negroes was in line with company policy. Although they had never hired Negro operators before, it was pointed out that the office at 126 st & Lenox av is completely manned by Negro staff. 12-9-44

"This experiment," said Edward S. Lewis, of the Urban League of Greater N.Y., "will be watched eagerly by millions of persons, black and white alike, interested in seeing all our big industries drop racial barriers in their employment practices."

LEADERS COMMENT

Negro leaders made the following comments:

Rev. John H. Johnson, St. Martin's Church: "I think it is a good thing. With the fact that an industry of the size of the Bell Telephone Co. has ceased its discrimination against Negroes should set a pattern for other companies who still have a hiring policy that is discriminatory."

Mrs. Cecelia C. Saunders, executive secretary Harlem YWCA: "I see it as one further step in our march toward democracy and full integration into the American scene."

Mrs. Edith Alexander, Mayor's Committee on Unity: "It is a step forward and should be a beginning. It is a victory for and a tribute to those individuals and groups who have pressed for that type of employment for Negro girls. The company is to be congratulated for its contribution for the furtherance of industrial democracy. Let others take notice."

Walter White, NAACP, called the action "very significant."

Charles Collier, jr, Citywide Citizens Committee on Harlem, saw it as an "encouraging example." 12-9-44

WORK FORCEFUL

According to Mr. Lewis, nearly every organization in the city interested in Negro employment problems attempted to negotiate with the company, including the New York and Brooklyn Urban Leagues, the YWCA, YMCA, the City-Wide Citizens' Committee on Harlem, the Welfare Council, the NAACP, and the National Negro Congress.

"Although none of these was able to secure a reversal of its personnel policy," he said, "the impact of their work over a period of years was forceful and effective. 12-9-44

"One of the most nearly successful campaigns staged by a private organization was the "Don't use-your-phone" drive sponsored a few years ago by the People's Committee and the Coordinating Committee for Employment under the vigorous direction of Congressman-elect Adam Clayton Powell, jr," Mr. Lewis continued.

"At that time Negroes were awakened to the fact that although they paid millions of dollars annually to the New York Telephone Company for service, virtually none of this money was being returned to the community in the form of wages."

Boston Stores Hire Negro Saleswomen

Tribune—Savannah, Ga. 12-21-44

MAKE FINE RECORD DURING THE SHORT EMPLOYMENT

BOSTON, MASS., —(ANP)— To the local chapter of the Urban league goes the credit for the recent employment of Negro saleswomen and girls in the downtown department stores a salespersons. According to reports, these colored aides are doing their jobs well, displaying at all times marked efficiency and courtesy.

The Urban league staff recently held conferences with representative business leaders in the downtown district and convinced them that Negro girls could give efficient and effective services in clerical positions. Following the meetings a leading department head, F. Frank Verenberg of Gilchrist and Jordan Marsh Co., sent out a call for capable Negro saleswomen and so successful was the experiment that other white business leaders followed suit. 12-21-44 Already in the short time that colored girls and women have been hired in these stores, several personnel directors have discussed the desirability of upgrading some of their Negro aides.

Drive Opens to Upgrade Negro Dep't Store Employes

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 11-19-44

by Walter Lowenfels

UPAC, the inter-racial United Peoples Action Committee headed by Arthur Huff Fauset, which spearheaded the campaign for upgrading Negroes on the transit lines, and whose Town Hall Roosevelt rally was the biggest meeting attended by Negroes in the area, is now going full steam ahead in its drive to get department stores to employ Negroes on their sales forces by Xmas. UPAC has opened new and spacious headquarters 2307 N. Broad.

Reports from department store customers that they have occasionally been waited on by Negro girls have been verified by un but investigation proved the girls were stock clerks who chanced to be working on sales' floors, and helped out overworked sales girls "unbeknownst" to department store officials.

* * *

Sylvia Moll, of the 46th Ward West Philadelphia Communist Club, the first in the city to handle a thousand copies of The Worker during the election campaign, says the demand for The Worker in the streets she has been canvassing door to door is even greater since the election.

* * *

General Electric workers at the big West Philadelphia plant now have a chance to read The Worker along with shipbuilders at Cramps and Sun. Plant gate sales started last Saturday at G. E.

* * *

Cookie, the ballad singer from Jimme Shorter's band, a magician, a fortune teller, a Boogie-Woogie piano team, are booked for the Thanksgiving Carnival the 24th Ward Communist Club is holding next Sunday evening (Nov. 26) at 810 Locust St.

* * *

Baldwin steelworkers, and many other unions, are glad that the CIO Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Local 625 has been cleared of "irresponsibility" charges arising from a wildcat walkout of 200 of the 1400 workers at the Baltimore, American Smelting plant last spring. A majority War Labor Board decision, written by Dr. Francis Tyson of the University of Pittsburgh, has granted maintenance of membership and check-off, declaring that the local and the international did "everything in their power to terminate the stoppage." This overrode minority opinion industry members including Horace Holcomb of Baldwin's who insisted "a partly responsible union is an irresponsible union," and disposes of Holcomb's minority claim "that responsibility is not measurable in degrees. The term is absolute."

* * *

Camden's record breaking majority of 45,000 for FDR, which the President needed to carry New Jersey, has put Gov. Edge's temper on edge. The GOP appeaser has threatened to "go into Camden county," and Camden's Mayor Bruner has replied "let 'em come." CIO and AFL workers who helped pile up the big non-partisan Roosevelt vote, and re-elect Giles Frazier of RCA and John Deith, of the Shipbuilders to the State Assembly, promise to teach Edge the ABCs of uniting all sections of the people for victory, which the ABC of Labor succeeded in doing. (The organization's name comes from—A for AFL, B for Railroad Brotherhoods, and C for CIO). 11-16-44

Gov. Martin was franker after the election than Gov. Dewey, who "indicated to callers," as the newspapers put it, that he never expected to win. Gov. Martin revealed to reporters that he really had expected to win Pennsylvania. Martin unwittingly exposed that behind the liberal state solider vote bill he supported was his belief, not shared by Gov. Dewey, that not only civilians but soldiers would vote the Hoover ticket. Days after the election, Martin was still not conceding the victory of Senator-elect Myers on the grounds that the soldier vote, to be counted Nov. 22, would favor Dewey.

Martin was pleased with the way Allegheny County and southwestern Pennsylvania held down the FDR vote, but grumpy that Philadelphia's GOP had failed to hold the President's margin down to 75,000, as promised.

Pullman porters are among the war workers who should be memorialized, according to an article written recently by Robert Wilder, travel editor of the New York Sun. Wildquests for some one to carry bags; food and dining car service may be below the standard set by American porter during a can railroads and coaches, past their prime, pressed into use, but of the Pullman porter remains serene, 2,000 mile vacation trip. "Baggage departments rising above this confusion the Pullman porter now uncertainty may dis- The play confusion and unce

12-16-44 Patience Of White-Coated Men Is Lauded Atlanta, Ga. (ANP) —

Erection Of War Monument To Atlanta, Ga. Porters Urged Atlanta Daily World

unhurried and remarkably efficient.

RESULTS AWE—INSPIRING

"There is no way of knowing the brand of philosophy acquired by his clan over the years or to what inner strength and convictions its members owe their calm," Wilder continued. "The results, however, are little short of awe-inspiring."

12-16-44

Wilder described the wartime conditions under which the Pullman porter has to work as squeezing "thrqugh cars where every available inch of space is put to use; on runs when his call buzzer whines continually, the buttons pushed by passengers who want to know how late the train is, or whether it will be possible for him to hop off at the next stop and purchase a few magazines, this dusky white-coated servitor displays a remarkable fortitude. He doesn't even seem to perspire as mortals do. The berths in his car are made as neatly as ever. His ability to find odd corners for that extra and usually unnecessary piece of luggage is as uncanny as before.

MOVES WITH APLOMB 12-16-44

"Passengers who, finding the smoking rooms crowded, smoke in the Pullmans and scatter ashes and twisted butts on the floor, receive no more than a mild glance of disapproval as he bends to sweep up the mess," the white newspapermen observed. "Babies cry, bits of sandwiches and paper find their way to the green-carpeted space between the seats, passengers want luncheon served where they sit, and paper cups and ice water are always running out. Through this disorder and man-made confusion the Pullman porter moves with majestic aplomb, doing his job not only well but better than anyone has a right to expect.

"Watching him over a couple of thousand miles," Wilder concluded, "we both envied and marveled at the inner spring of confidence from which he draws his strength. When we get around to war monuments something should be done about the Pullman porter."

Industrialists Say Negro War Workers Making Good

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

5-26-44

NEW YORK. — The National Urban League announced this week that an additional one hundred well-known industries had submitted information concerning the performance of Negro workers in war production, giving further evidence of their satisfactory work in a wide range of industrial operations.

These firms are located principally in the Philadelphia, Buffalo and North Jersey areas and are employing large numbers of Negroes in production jobs for the first time. From the statements included in the reports received by the League and in conferences with officials of these industries, field representatives of the organization declared that complaints about absenteeism, race friction, and inefficiency among Negroes were seldom heard.

WHAT MANAGERS SAY

Personnel and plant managers in most industries have learned that most of the so-called special problems encountered in the use of Negro workers in other than traditional jobs disappear when handled intelligently. 5-26-44

Typical of the statements made by management is this comment of the production manager of a New Jersey precision tool plant employing 600 Negro men and women: "We have been amazed at the adaptability of Negro workers.

"They have demonstrated an unusual capacity for learning skilled operations in the plant and many of them have been upgraded to very responsible jobs." The general manager of a food products plant in Buffalo said: "We have found most Negroes in our employ capable workers. The migratory workers give us some problems because they seem to get homesick after a few weeks and want to return to the South."

When questioned by League staff members about post-war employment for Negroes, management in the majority of the 100 plants expressed an optimistic point of view. Declaring that they were preparing to expand production after the war, they said there was no reason why competent Negro workers would not remain on the company's payroll.

POLICY OF FAIR OPERATION

The vice-president of a large Philadelphia firm manufacturing hats said: "Generally we find Negroes satisfactory as workers, although naturally their faults are conspicuous because everybody is regarding them not merely as workers but as Negroes. I personally would like to see a continuation and extension of the present war-time policy because it is in keeping with our democratic principles and furnishes a partial but important solution to the Negro question. I think it is most important, therefore, that all those interested in their basic American problem should realize the importance of laying a lot of ghosts at the present time when the Negro worker has the best opportunity to demonstrate his value in our industrial system. 5-26-44

Julius A. Thomas, director of the Urban League's department of Industrial Relations, said that members of the League staff are contacting top management in all industrial centers to discuss present performance of Negro workers and the possibility of their continued employment.

National and local officials of many labor unions are also working with the League, Thomas said, and they are committed to a policy of fair and impartial operation of their seniority regulations in the demobilization and reemployment of their membership.

"Any Job in This Plant Is Open---"

Baltimore, Md. Afro American

Electronic Company of New York Promote Colored Workers to Better Positions

12-9-44

By RICHARD DIEP

NEW YORK—The Electronic Corporation of America, manufacturers of test equipment for the Army and Navy, proves that democracy at work can be highly successful, through its employment of peoples of all races, religions and creeds.

Although this liberal concern employs only forty colored workers out of a total force of 350, officials indicated that there are many vacancies that can be had for the asking.

Policy for 25 Years

In an exclusive AFRO interview at the employment offices at 45 W. Eighteenth Street, this week, Carl Bristel, publicity and public relations chief, said:

"There isn't a job in the plant that isn't open to any colored employee, and that's been our policy for twenty-five years. One of our best engineers and the chairman of our labor-management section are colored.

"Discrimination doesn't exist here. Should we come across any instance of prejudice by any of our supervisors we'd nip it in the bud immediately."

Co-operation with Unions

"There are two labor unions in the plant, the United Electrical Radio Machine Workers of America and the Federation of Architects and Engineers. Both management and labor have co-operated to the point where there is complete equality for everybody.

"We have theatre parties, boatings, and dinners at which all employees mix freely. There's no behind-the-scenes policy at work. We've proved that it can operate successfully in war time, and we've already set plans to continue on the same basis when peace comes."

Musical Programs

Mr. Bristle said that every new employee is given a $1500 insurance policy which the employer pays for in full. There is a free medical health plan which includes certain limited services to workers' families. Twice daily, there are fifteen-minute rest periods during which free milk is served. 12-9-44

Musical programs are held during working hours to relieve strain and monotony. Management has also established and paid for a library where all employees are given cards and have regular library privileges.

"Most important of all are our semi-monthly labor-management morale meetings. Our production schedules are announced and a program of entertainment on some phase of war activity is given.

"Our company sponsors two radio commentator programs on Stations WMCA and WHN. During the Philadelphia transit strike, our commentators, Johannes Steel and William Gailmor, attacked the racial discrimination angle as a fundamental cause of the strike.

Application Formed

"Our application forms for employment should be copied by every employer in America," he continued. "They don't mention of race or religion, and that's the way we intend to keep them."

Mr. Bristel said that the Electronic Corporation is not satisfied in just practicing true democracy on its own grounds. To publicize its work, it has prepared a 43-page booklet called, "America at Peace," in which it points out the vast possibilities for full employment for all peoples in the reconversion period.

Not Afraid, Nor Ashamed

"What our company has done to eliminate discrimination can be accomplished by anyone, provided there's no fear attached in the undertaking.

"Our success has come about because of our democratic policies, and we want the rest of the world to know about it and do

Negro Girls Added To Staff of Saks Elegant 5th Ave.

N.Y.N.E. Amster Last near 12/30/44

By NORA HOLT

Saks Fifth Avenue, whose elegance and good taste in department store settings and appointments is unequalled in this country (with the possible exception of I. Magnin's in Hollywood) has recently added a new group of Negro girls to their staff of employes, thereby keeping step with the policies of many other city establishments.

During an interview with an executive, it was noted that Saks has had Negro employees for many years, hence the augmentation should not be considered a new policy, but a move commensurate with the general expansion of the store.

The questions asked the director, who was eager to give all possible information concerning the new employes, were: (1) How many Negroes are employed in the store? Unanswered. (2) According to requirements, do Negroes measure up to other races in the hiring plan? The anwer was that requirements very according to jobs, but about 30 per cent of all applicants are turned down. Negroes average favorably with other races. (3) What are the qualifications? It is understood there are no fixed rules, although applicants with a high school education are most desirable. An the feeling for good family ba ound is very strong — girls who ive in homes with their families. (4) From what sources are new applicants recruited? The executive revealed that they are selected largely through personal contacts. Employes whose records are highly satisfactory recommend young people with whom they have individual contact and can vouch for their integrity and honesty.

Also through bona fide organizations like the YMCA, YWCA, churches, Army Relief and Navy League. (5). In which categories do they function? The store keeps an adequate staff of typists, inspectors, wrappers and packers with supervisors. Many important job: These young women are selected on a promotional basis. work on a publication, but when it is rather than an unusual incident for discussion in the policies of the store

It was learned that some now occupations were elevator operators, and supervisor, clerical workers personnel. absolutely no discrimination. A numberural graciousness, mellow voices, day to day. The vice-president Saks Fifth Avenue makes a good memory, pleasiders the matter of these new employees as a general improvement

New York's Lord & Taylor Hires 4 Colored Salesgirls

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.
1-1-44

Manager Says Girls Have High Qualifications; 1 Looks Like Glamorous Lena Horne; Workers Trained in Store; More to Be Hired in Future

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK. — "We are employing four colored salesgirls in our store," Mr. Revard of the executive offices of Lord and Taylor, revealed recently in an exclusive AFRO interview.

"These girls," he continued, "have been with us for the past two years, and you can put me down for saying that they're tops when it comes to selling. They are clean-cut, efficient, know how to speak to and handle our customers . . . and believe me, that is the most difficult part of the job.

"Anyone who has heard about Lord and Taylor knows that it caters to a high-class type of customer, who has better-than-average buying power. They pay a high price for our goods and want to be treated in a very special way.

Tact and Understanding

"This requires tact and understanding on the part of the salesgirl, and the colored girls measure up to our standards in every conceivable way.

"We trained them right here in our store, and if we can find more like them, we'll be glad to give them the same opportunity. Of course, we have to be very careful in our selection of sales help. That also has to be taken into consideration.

"At the present time, there are upwards of 3,000 people working here, and of this number, 135 are colored. It's hard to give you an exact figure as the number varies during the year. Sometimes, we may have 200 and at other times only 100. You know how it is. There are always people who leave for other jobs.

In Other Jobs

"They are also doing clerical work, wrapping and packing, and taking care of stock. We are very much satisfied with their work and shall continue to employ them after the war, the same as we always have done.

"Incidentally, we have a colored man who is doing restaurant work, and has been with us for thirty years. He recently told me that I was pushing the racial issue and looking for trouble by hiring so many colored people.

"I couldn't understand his viewpoint and told him so. It seems to me that it is only fair that the person with the best qualifications should be hired, regardless of color, or . . . with limitations of course." 1-1-44

No Quota System

Asked what he meant by limitations, Mr. Revard explained:

"I don't want the AFRO to think that we're on a quota system here. It is only natural that we don't want to flood our place with colored people, even if they all had the best qualifications.

"Some ratio has to be established as to the number we employ in order to suit the store and its customers.

"There's one thing you can be sure of, and that is, there's never any talk of discrimination at Lord & Taylor. Our employees are trained and fitted into the jobs they can best fill.

"Every effort is made by employment officials to place people into the right jobs so they can be of most service to the store, and above all, be happy in their work.

Some Discharged

"We have had cases where colored employees failed to live up to our high standards and were discharged, but this can happen to whites as well. At one time, we were so short of help, that we had to hire a large number of school boys for stock work. One day, we found half of them shooting craps, and had to fire the whole bunch of them.

"Some people will say that this shows that all school boys are no good, irresponsible, and can't hold down jobs. But this is not true. The same goes for colored people. If one or two don't measure up, does that mean that all won't stand up? I think that's a stupid and narrow-minded viewpoint. 1-1-44

"We even have society girls working here, whose parents would never consent to their working in places like Woolworth's or Kress. They usually stay for two years, then quit to get married and live a life of ease. Think of the money and time we spent to train them for a certain job. That's all wasted. But what can we do? We just have to accept it.

"Our salesgirls are very happy in their jobs and we hope to be able to hire a good many more in the future. That, of course, depends on our needs, and on the qualifications of the applicants.

"By the way, when you're down on the main floor, just stop by at the umbrella accessories counter and you will see a girl who has worked here two years. She is one of our best employees."

Writer Amazed

When I saw this girl, I was almost struck dumb with amazement. She's an exact double of the glamorous screen actress and singer, Lena Horne. She is young, pretty, and has the most beautiful smile, and I can easily see why she's so well liked.

Lord and Taylor deserves some commendation in that it is one of the few stores in New York that has broken the ice and placed colored girls in sales jobs. That is a good sign . . . even if it is with "limitations."

Bell Telephone Co. Employing Qualified Negro Workers, N. Y.

North West Enterprise - Seattle, Washington.
1-5-44

The experimental laboratories of the Bell Telephone Company, located at 463 West street, has assured the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice (FEPC) that in the future it will accept qualified workers for any type of jobs without discrimination, and has recently added a number of qualified Negro workers to its staff, it was announced by Edward Lawson, Regional FEPC Director.

Mr. Lawson stated that a complaint of discriminatory employment practice filed against the company by a young woman who had been referred by the United States Employment Service as a trainee had been satisfactorily adjusted. and that all personnel workers, supervisory employees and foremen had been given strict orders against discrimination by the plant manager.

The company, which is engaged in essential war work, had only 17 Negro workers at the time the FEPC investigation was initiated. Since that time, more than forty additional Negro workers have been employed, most of them in production operations.

Absenteeism High at O. Air Fields, Hiring 500 Colored

Afro-American — Baltimore, Md.
1-29-44

Women Blamed for Failing to Comply With Orders and Staying Away; Harmony Seems to Prevail Between Colored and White Workers, Separated Only at Lunch Time; Carter Tells Why the Workers Complain

By MICHAEL CARTER

DAYTON, Ohio—Over 5,000 colored men and women are repairing airplanes shot down in combat or damaged in flying accidents at the government fields here.

Dark hands will either push a plane, direct the motor, or repair the radio. And after pay days many of the dark hands will

Being an American field, discrimination is here, but our workers have chances for advancement. The maintenance division, which repairs planes, employs 475 colored men who average $160.43 a month. The 59 colored women average $138.64. White men average $209.83 and white women $136.19.

Most of our workers live in Dayton. It costs them sixty cents round trip a day carfare. or

EMPLOYEE: I insist on quitting. I've been here a whole year and I have had no promotions. First I was in the mechanical department and I did not like it, so they made me a clerk, but I'm tired and want to resign.

The employee's father was living and there was a younger sister at home to look after the mother. But she insisted on a resignation. "If I need a job again, I'm sure I can get one; maybe I'll even come back here."

Some girl workers are invariably truculent. They adopt a half-smiling "don't-have-to-work-anyhow" attitude. They seem to find pleasure in their sudden power to quit a job and find another at a moment's notice.

29 Leave, 6 Hired

Before they came here from the Central Southern States, they earned less than $10 a week as domestics. Many men are working here for thirty days and moving further north to better-paying, private industrial jobs.

During November, 76 whites and 29 colored workers left the jobs for all reasons, including dismissals and the draft. Only 6 colored workers and 58 whites were hired.

In a 10-month period, one 854 professional, 312 training, and 21 guards. The remainder are 13 days' annual leave. classified as unskilled.

Behavior Problems

Engine Repair Department Chief behavior problems are the refusal of colored workers to comply with orders, obscene language, and absenteeism.

The first and last concern mainly the women. There seems to be a marked tendency to use the charge of discrimination as a cover for personal derelictions. This also is common in all industrial plants. The workers showed no skill in being able to learn two trades instead of one. "What good will either trade be after the war? Do you think they will keep us in these jobs." That incontrovertible idea is behind much of the indifference and absenteeism. 1-29-44

Other morale-smashing problems are the continued complaints that our workers are not being re-classified; that there is not enough work to do; that individual foremen have insidious, subtle, jim-crow methods.

The actual breakdown of colored employment is: 1,752 skilled, 854 professional, 312 training, and 21 guards. The remainder are classified as unskilled.

Behavior Problems

Chief behavior problems are the refusal of colored workers to comply with orders, obscene language, and absenteeism.

The first and last concern mainly the women. There seems to be a marked tendency to use the charge of discrimination as a cover for personal derelictions. This also is common in all industrial plants

but all army officers and help are white. There are fifteen colored police officers tioned here. Unlike Dayton ored policemen, they are form and can arrest any or

Department on the job absenteeism are the personnel problems. "I feel this is our big chance to establish ourselves in the air port of America," one of said. "I hate to see us thr our chances for employmen

"An actual and unbiased colored women is poor. Dur three-month period, 27 per were absent. Usual excuses "My brother went to the a or, 'I drank too much, and I did not feel like coming work.'" 1-29-44

Women Resign

For some reason women will sign, or threaten to resign, at drop of a monkey wrench. 8:30 a.m. on my first day at field I heard the following st

FEMALE EMPLOYEE: mother is ill and I want to re and live with her.

OFFICER: Your qualificati are good and I'd like to keep on. I don't want to take your terest away from your moth but I'd like to interest you the future of our women in t work. I'm willing to do anyth I can to keep you on—a chan of jobs, a leave of absence, a

Indicates that attendance at

of the women.

Many employees show a lack of thrift and an eagerness to cash their war bonds. Most of them say that there is nothing to save after taxes, bonds, civil service deductions, carfare and rent are paid.

Work in Harmony

On an escorted tour of the plant I saw colored and white workers repairing ships, sweeping floors, directing electrical installations, and doing all types of work in what appeared to be utmost harmony.

The marked separation of the races began only at lunch time. I rarely saw colored and white workers eating together. The colored accuse themselves of causing this separation. "We just sit together."

Our workers complained of being forced into the magneto washing department where I saw more colored than white workers.

They justly complain of getting raises and high titles, but of being kept on low-skill jobs. I saw several examples of this. Official explanation at the field is that it could happen to anyone.

Colored Foreman

In one of the vast repair shops, which is so big that you could easily overlook a flight of bombers in it, I saw colored men and women directing the most complex operations. Most of the colored foremen had all-colored crews. One woman, Dawn Taylor, is a crew chief.

On days after pay day, 9th and 24th of each month, fewer workers were present. Absenteeism is high on days following the rest day. Workers put in six eight-hour days, and have one rest day in seven

EDITORIAL

It is entirely true that there is a concentration of absenteeism among colored workers. It is equally true that the absences are probably unjustified because they fall, regularly, on the days after pay day and after rest day, or the day after a vitally important dance in Dayton.

But, there are equally valid reasons for this. Among both races the tendency for slipshod work and high absenteeism is greatest in unskilled jobs with low pay. Colored workers are concentrated in these groups.

It is also true that a rather high percentage of women quit their jobs, take extended leaves, show a minimum of interest in their work, and no interest in the war.

Organized Recreation Lacking

But, there are also reasons for this. There is absolutely no organized recreation in Dayton. The women are not wanted in the white YWCA, in the downtown theatres, or in any of the bowling and other recreational centers. Dayton wants to keep its colored population on the proper side of the Miami River.

Dayton and the Federal Government think in terms of biracialism. Both are wedded to the Nazis-like idea of separate but equal accommodations, which by their very nature cannot be equal. 1-29-44

As a result the housing project for colored girls accommodates only 50, but the white building houses 200 and offers more privileges.

Separate $200,000 Y

Now, white people are going to help build a $200,000 YWCA, to keep colored girls out of theirs.

War production could be speeded up, democracy enhanced and morale improved by development of an interracial housing project and recreation projects.

No one can promise colored or white workers post-war jobs. The colored workers should be guaranteed that they will be kept on as workers, if needed, and not fired as colored people who were used as an emergency device in the same manner that a gas bomb is exploded or a flame-thrower used in a battlefield emergency.

On top of that, the colored worker has to spend more to live than the white worker. He also has to take the insults of prejudiced whites who poison the air of Ohio with the spirochetes of hate.

Some man-to-man talks would alleviate absenteeism and apathy.

URBAN LEAGUE IS DISTURBED OVER "ABSENTEEISM"

Globe And Independent
Nashville, Tenn. 2-19-44

Many Workers Found to be Indifferent About Holding Jobs

NEW YORK, Feb. 17—(ANP)—"Absenteeism" was listed as chief among the difficulties encountered by defense industries, in a recent report of the National Urban league's industrial relations laboratory. Three hundred plants furnished information which served as a basis for a project rel ting to the performance of Negro workers. The league has passed on the following findings: 2-19-44

In June, 1943, the WMC reported 6.7 per cent of the 14,673,000 workers employed by industries reporting through the USES were Negroes. This report would include approximately 1,000,000 Negro workers. More recent figures, however, place the percentage at 8.3 per cent due to the increased employment of Negroes. According to still more recent figures, the Urban league estimates the number of Negro workers currently engaged in war production and other essential war employment at 1,500,000.

Of the 300 plants from which information was obtained, 238 reported that they had increased the number of Negro workers in their employ during the present emergency. The estimated total Negro employment of the 300 industries is 150,000. The total has not been broken down by sex, although Negro women are known to be employed in a number of the plants. Generally speaking, however, it is a known fact that the employment of Negro women has not kept pace with the employment of white women or of Negro men, and it is reported that less than 4 per cent of 7,000,000 women workers in war production and essential war employment are Negroes.

Negroes are employed in skilled operations in 154 of the 300 plants, while semi-skilled workers were reported in 147 of 300 plants, and all of them reported the use of Negroes for unskilled jobs. The majority of the plants employing skilled workers were located in the eastern seaboard and mid-western cities. Of the plants in the Chicago area, 15 out of 35 listed skilled workers. In the New York area, including Connecticut, 51 out of 80 industries included in the laboratory reported the employment of skilled Negro workers, while in the Cleveland-Detroit area, 24 out of 45 industries reported the employment of Negroes in skilled jobs.

Over 50 per cent of the plants in this category reported that they had used the services of the Urban league in the selection and introduction of their first Negro workers and had sought the assistance of league officials when minor difficulties arose.

In 253 of the 300 industries, management declared that on the basis of current experience with Negro labor, they would continue to employ them after the war. No decision was reported from 12 plants, make commitments, and the remaining 35 declined to

In the 142 plants which listed difficulties, the following complaints appeared most frequently: higher rate of absenteeism in 67 plants; race friction in 21 plants; over-aggressiveness and "chip on shoulder attitude" in 11 plants; high turn-over among Negroes in 13 plants. No answer to this inquiry came from 61 plants; in 78 industries management reported no special difficulties.

The following criticisms were made by various plant heads:

"Top management and the union do their best to see that no discrimination is practiced between Negro and white employes on jobs in our plants." (a Chicago machine tool plant.)

"Absenteeism higher among Negroes than other groups. Some consider their job for their own convenience, without a feeling of responsibility for race, company or country." (a Cleveland plant.)

"We have found that on machine work and skilledwork they did well, while in less skilled work in a number of cases we found evidence of little interest in their work." (a Cleveland plant.)

"We have attempted to employ additional Negro workers, but have met with resistance on the part of our white workers." (a Pennsylvania plant.)

"We have followed a well-planned program for integrating Negro workers in this plant, and we are pleased with the performance of our workers in every department." (a personnel director of a large airplant plant.)

"The main difficulty is that Negroes are not accustomed to industry and they require more than the usual supervision. A lot of them also do not seem to realize the importance of regular attendance." (plant in Kansas City, Mo.)

Another Road To Use Race Stewards

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
5-14-44

CHICAGO—(A N P)—The Milwaukee railroad has agreed to the employment of qualified Negroes as stewards in its dining car service, it was announced today by Elmer W. Henderson, regional director of the FEPC in Chicago.

Negotiations between the company and FEPC had been instituted on the basis of complaints received from representatives of the Joint Council of Dining Car Employees, AFL, and the United Transport Service employees of America CIO, that qualified Negro waiters and waiters-in-charge were denied positions as stewards solely because of their race.

In order to effect this change in policy it was necessary for the company first to conclude a special agreement with the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen to conclude a special agreement with the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen which has jurisdiction over the stewards which permitted a change in existing seniority rules. Now that this has been accomplished, the company is in a position to proceed in accordance with the President's executive order banning discrimination in employment in war industries. 6-14-44

"This is a significant forward step by the Milwaukee railroad and we are making an effort to secure similar commitments from other railroads in this area," Henderson said. The Pennsylvania and the Chicago and Northwestern railroads have already announced that Negroes would be employed as stewards as a result of negotiations with FEPC.

'Sweep' Clocks 32,500 Miles Of Tidy Street

Post-Washington D.C.
6-20-44

If Fred Anderson's work had been laid out strainght in front of him he would now be all the way around the world and then some.

ANDERSON

But he has been going around in circles, more or less for the last quarter of a century. He has, as a matter of fact, swept himself around Quantico blocks to the tune of some 32,500 miles.

Anderson is practically a town institution. He knows Marines in all parts of the world who refer to him familiarly as "Sweep" Anderson. 6-20-44

It was shortly after the last war that the 65-year-old Negro arrived in Quantico and applied for the job of keeping the town's streets clean. Since then he has swept away 235 street brooms.

Every morning since 1918 Anderson, broom in hand, has started his duties at the west end of the Quantico business district, and swept an area of several blocks amounting to approximately 3 miles of street a day.

And at the age of 65 he has reached this decision:

"Nope, not going to retire. I'm just going to keep sweepin'."

TVA Opens White Collar Jobs To Negroes, Assumes A More Liberal Policy At Knoxville, Tenn.

2-26-44

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. Feb. —TVA announcement made ago in answer to their complaints. Mr. Case, who states that TVA's man, A. E. Morgan, several years ago in an address by the former chair- requirements for such unique admonit on given them in offices if they meet satn Many still remember the rather graphers' positions in racial discrimination- and bias. Negroes into clerks and who have brought charges a-sonnel director, Monda gainst the old order of practicingthe TVA will hereafter m nds of many leading Negroes, by Harry L. Case, assis has long been a sore spot in the According to a statem

35g-1944

Aiken Negro Blacksmith Doesn't Have to Keep Up With the Times

Augusta, Ga., January 2

By VIVIAN MILNER

One man who doesn't have to keep up with the times — in fact, the times marched right back to him—is B. C. Price, Negro blacksmith and owner of the Aiken (S. C.) Wagon Works, a booming little business right out of the past.

In his large, shed-like building just off Aiken's Main Street, Price, a likeable, intelligent Negro, shoes horses, repairs buggies and wagons, sharpens scissors and lawnmowers, delves in woodwork, and does electric welding — the only modern service he offers.

In a corner of the dark room, on whose dirt floor parts of wagons, scrap metal, and even an old model auto rest, stands Price's forge and anvil. The equipment is only about 30 years old; but it's cast in the same mold that was used back in Revolutionary times.

The blacksmith trade "almost went off the map" before the war, Price said. "But it's easier for farmers to feed a mule than get gasoline for a tractor," he declared, and consequently he's kept busy shoeing horses and mules and repairing metal parts of harness.

Price doesn't do much blacksmith work for the sporting trade who bring their horses to Aiken in the winter. "They've mostly got their own blacksmiths at their stables," he said. But he does keep their buggies up for them.

The Aiken Wagon Works is the largest concern of its type in Aiken, and probably in Aiken County, Price said. In the 3(years since Tom Tarver and Ec Sommers, two white men, started the works, it's built up a solid clientele. Ownership of the works changed hands several times, and about ten years ago Price's father, F. J. Price, bought the business.

In 1937 F. J. Price died, and Price took over. He does a great deal of the work himself, and has a full time helper and a part-time man working for him. "I learned the trade from my father," he said.

Just as the work he does is old-fashioned, Price's attitude about it is, too. There's no atmosphere of speed or the need to hurry, down at the works. He does the work well; but with the attitude that tomorrow has 24 hours, just like today. Usually there's a group of men hunched around a bright fire which burns in the center of the stable-like room, and they smoke, reminisce and discuss the latest happenings.

As to the future, and what will happen to the blacksmith trade, once gasoline and rubber are easy to get again, "that's a long time off," Price chuckled.

NEGRO GAINS SEEN IN POST-WAR JOBS

Times - New York, N.Y. 2-10-44

Present Record in Industry Is Said to Assure Field Wider Than Before Conflict

300 PLANTS ARE SURVEYED

253 Report That Work Will Be Available—25 States Covered in Inquiry

Employment opportunities for Negroes will be greater in post-war industry than before the conflict, according to a report of a study made public yesterday by the National Urban League.

The report, based upon data compiled by the league's department of industrial relations, analyzed returns from 300 typical war plants in twenty-five States and 120 cities, covering 150,000 Negro workers.

Satisfactory work performance by Negroes was reported by 215 plants. In nine cases managements declared that Negro workers were inferior to white, while in fifty plants performance was said to be "fairly satisfactory."

In 253 plants the managements asserted that on the basis of current experience with Negro workers jobs would be assured them after the war. Twelve plants had made no decisions and the remaining thirty-five declined to make commitments.

Skilled Operations in 154

Negroes were employed in skilled operations by 154 of the 300 plants, as semi-skilled workers in 247 and as unskilled workers in all. The majority of the plants were in the Middle West and in seaboard cities in the East. 2-10-44

The most frequent complaints listed by 142 plants that reported difficulties in the use of Negro workers were the following: Higher rate of absenteeism in sixty-seven plants, race friction in twenty-one, "chip-on-the-shoulder" attitude in eleven and high turnover in thirteen. Only twenty-one reported friction between white and Negro workers as a difficulty.

The report pointed out that 1,000,000 Negroes were employed by war industries through the United States Employment Office and that other industries probably would bring the number of Negro workers in war production to at least 1,500,000. A lag in the employment of Negro women was indicated in an estimate that only 4 per cent of women war workers were Negroes.

Increase in Workers

The league reported that there had been a rapid increase in the employment of Negro workers in war industries because of shrinking labor reserves, an increase likely to continue through 1944, and that Negro workers were being employed in more semi-skilled and skilled jobs than at any time in the past. The organization added that there was growing recognition that Negroes succeeded in their jobs in much the same manner as other workers and that it was reasonable to assume that Negro workers would hold many of the gains made by them in the last three years.

"It should not be taken for granted," the report commented, "that this highly desirable change in the status of Negro workers will take place without continued education in industrial relations and application of the highest democratic principle in the distribution of jobs. A vigorous program of workers' education and community education is needed to offset the explosive emotional reactions resulting from the sudden shifts in population and the rapid changes in the employment status of Negro and white workers. 2-10-44

"Management-labor committees, working with Government agencies in the field of industrial relations, can be profitably utilized in the further development of good labor relations, worker morale and maximum efficiency of Negro workers."

500 Women In Postoffice At Chicago

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 3-22-44

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Negro women here have entered the United States postal service of the city in large numbers, filling the places of men for the duration. A recent survey by the local branch of the National Alliance of Postal employes indicates that there are approximately 500 now in temporary assignments, including details to most of the clerical units of the mail functions.

While Negroes hold about 15 per cent of the 14,000 jobs in the Chicago postoffice, colored workers occupy only 13 of the more than 600 supervisory, executive and administrative positions, or only about two percent of the advanced jobs, the alliance officials reported. A majority of the Negroes in the service hold clerical positions, while many are letter carriers, motor vehicle servicemen, laborers, custodial workers and special delivery messengers.

3-22-44

Still Room For Improvement

Daily World - Atlanta Ga.

Areas of Negro Employment are expanding. Employment prospects for Negro workers in post-war industry appear steadily brighter. These are the assurances coming from the National Urban League, as gathered from a survey of some 300 typical war plant employers, located in 25 states and 120 cities and towns. 2-15-44

Satisfactory work performance by Negroes is reported by 215 of the 300 plants. In nine cases, management declared Negro workers inferior to white, and in 50 plants a report of "fairly satisfactory" was made. Negroes are employed in skilled operations by 154 of the 300 plants; as semi-skilled workers in 247 plants, and as unskilled workers in all, the report states.

It is significant too, to study the most frequent complaints listed by the 142 plants which reported difficulties with Negro workers. Higher rate of absenteeism in 67 plants, race friction in 21, chip-on-the-soulder attitude in 11, are the major complaints listed. But on the whole, it is most gratifying that the greatest majority having experience with Negro labor reported that on the basis of present experience, they would assure them jobs after the war. It is also worthy of note that in not a single instance of complaint was poor work mentioned.

The League study, it would seem, should be of greatest social value to the Negro workers themselves. Especially should it prove helpful to those who carry the chip-on-the-shoulder attitude into their jobs, and we might add, into their daily contacts on the street cars, buses and other public places. 2-15-44

In his brief monograph: "The Negro Comes of Age in Industry," Dr. Robert Weaver said: Much has been written about the supposed undesirable work habits of Negroes. We know today that these are not racial characteristics and that they can be modified through fair employment practices. Men and women who have prepared themselves for skilled or technical work cannot be expected to be vitally in a janitor's or maids job. Workers who, because of the color line, cannot rise to production or skilled jobs regardless of their regularity, punctuality, or affability, will hardly manifest these characteristics.

Favor Race Girls On Switchboards

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 5-18-44

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (NNPA) — The possibility that the first Negro girls to operate telephone switchboards in the government may occur in the State Department was revealed in a reported conversation between the Secretary of State, Cordell Hull, of Tennessee, and the chief telephone operator at the Department.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in keeping switchboard operators at the Dept.—the girls leaving for better paying jobs elsewhere. The chief operator pointed out to the Secretary, so the story is reported, that there was danger of the communications breaking down in the service.

When the chief operator threatened to resign in such an event, the Secretary is said to have asked: "Well, aren't they citizens?"

To this the Secretary replied: "Well, this might be a good place to start."

"What about getting some Negro girls," the Secretary is reported to Washington. (FFEPS take note).

The chief operator is alleged to have told the Secretary that there isn't a single Negro operating a

Pennsylvania To Employ Negro Dining Stewards

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Becomes Second Major Railroad To Fall In Line

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — The Pennsylvania railroad, one of the nation's largest railroads, will now accept applications of Negroes for jobs as dining car stewards. The railroad has stated that it will consider such applications on the basis of the applicant's qualifications, regardless of race, creed, or color.

The Pennsylvania is the second railroad to fall in line. The ice is broken on discrimination in the dining car departments of the nation's railroads a few weeks ago when the Northwestern placed five on the steward's seniority roster.

Maceo Hubbard, FEPC representative, and George E. Brown, T. A. Jackson, and R. W. Smith, representatives of Local 370 and the Joint Council of Dining Car Employees, AFL, said in a joint statement, that, as a result of the Pennsylvania's new policy, they anticipated that many of the big eastern railroads would soon fall in line and grant jobs of higher classification to Negroes. 4-5-44

For some time the Pennsylvania has been paying Negro waiters-in-charge the same wages as stewards when they work on large dining cars; but they have refused to grant Negroes the official status of stewards, or place them on the steward's seniority roster. Many of these waiters-in-charge, who have worked in jobs which are ordinarily classified as stewards, contend that they have been stewards in fact for some time. Because of this, there is an unsettled dispute between these employes and the railroad, which was not settled as a result of the carrier's commitment to employ Negroes as stewards. 4-5-44

The dining car employes organization is now assisting them in preparing a case for the National Railroad Adjustment

Negro Mailman Besieged By Gifts, Notes As He Retires After 36 Years

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. 4-30-44

F. C. Dillon Never Given Demerit

By JOHN ESCHRICH.

For thirty-six years Florian C. Dillon, 66, Negro, has delivered good tidings, messages of love and duns on Postal Carrier Route 173. In all that time he has never been given a demerit.

As with all good things, the carrying came to a happy end yesterday.

"It really was the happiest day of my life, though there was, of necessity, a few happy tears," Dillon said.

Route 173 runs from 1400 Cherokee Road to Bardstown Road to Eastern Parkway to Cherokee Park. In the three dozen years that Dillon carried the mail, the route has been reduced because of the increasing population. Seven men now carry the mail over what was the original route.

Never Missed Promotion.

Dillon never missed a promotion. He started at $600 a year and went to $2,100.

"We are proud of men like Dillon," said Postmaster J. Elliott Riddell. "And you might say," added Assistant Postmaster Charles E. Burke, "that he was always a workhorse for charities such as the Red Cross and Community Chest at Baxter Avenue Station."

As Dillon trod the route yesterday he began to receive love notes of his own. One elderly woman, whose mail he carried through the prime of her life, and who is now bedridden at 90, demanded that Dillon be brought to her bedside.

"She wept a little," he said, "and I cried a little bit myself as she recalled the passing days."

At many places there were little gifts for the retiring postman and his money gifts totaled $216.

"If wishes were horses you'd have a full stable of them . . ." maybe Derby winners, too . . ." wrote one woman. "I'm glad to have known so fine a Christian citizen of our community. May God ever bless you."

"We will miss your smiling face," said another. 4-30-44

Considers Him Best.

One wrote that the daily mail chores brought "that association which has added innumerable cheer to normal happenings."

"I consider you the best mailman that we have ever had anywhere,' said an enthusiastic note.

"We all hate to see you leave," was one note that epitomized the gist of many more.

"I think they were the most appreciative, friendly, uncomplaining people a mailman ever carried mail to," said Dillon as he bundled his gifts into the new traveling bag, gift of his fellows at the Baxter Avenue Station, and went thoughtfully on his way to his 606 W. Walnut apartment, to lay away his carrier's uniform forever.

ROTUND, SMILING, WHITE-HAIRED Florian C. Dillon receives congratulations of Postmaster J. Elliott Riddell yesterday as he retired from service.

EMPLOYMENT DIFFERENCES

Strangely enough, only five per cent of the Negro men are employed in the professional, semi-professional, managerial, clerical and sales occupations as against 30 per cent of the white males. Equally striking differences are shown between white and Negro women.

Seventy per cent of the employed Negro women, and only 22.4 per cent of the white women are employed in service occupations, and whereas one-third of the employed women were engaged in clerical and sales service, only one per cent of the Negro women were so employed. To these scant but suggestive figures add the greater point that organized labor is doing but little to change the general picture of the Negro's confinement to relatively few avenues of labor. 1-22-44

DR. HANCOCK

ECONOMIC LIFE RESTRICTED

The Negro's economic life is too restricted to give the assurance that the critical situation demands. It must be clear from everyday observations that the best economic places held by Negroes are those made by Negro business or by the system of segregation.

Survive Or Perish
Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va.
1-22-44

By GORDON B. HANCOCK
Special to Journal and Guide

IT is quite significant that 62.2 percent of all Negro men employed were to be found in agriculture, while only 28.5 per cent of whites were so found. This is one of the more assuring facts in the premise. This indicates that Negroes are still close to the soil; and when ways and means can be devised whereby life on the farm can be made attractive and profitable, the farm may easily prove a haven for the Negro whom the "New White Man" is driving to the walls in our cities. When nations die those close to the soil die last.

The tide of human migration that once swept so surely towards the city is gradually turning, and towards the country. Negroes who are already on the farm have a great advantage and especially in view of the government interest in farm rehabilitation. The mechanization of agriculture will relieve the farm of the future of its drudgery and hard labor that have turned the Negro against the farm. The new rural developments are fast eliminating the more undesirable aspects of farm life with its radio, automobiles, rural mail delivery and the telephone, to say nothing of the fine roads and paved highways.

35g-1944

Trainmen Prove Merit

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

On Frisco Rail Lines

4-29-44

By LAWRENCE F. LaMAR

SAN FRANCISCO (NPB) — For one coming to this city from this state's southern metropolis, that is Los Angeles, there is abject amazement and wondering pride, at the way officials of San Francisco's two street railway companies have overcome an imagined popular opposition to the employment of Negro men and women as operators of their streetcars. But look upon the employes themselves and surprise and wonder is no longer necessary.

Conduct, and strict attention to their job and the company's business of providing the public with transportation with the least bit of discomfiture, proved to have been the solution to the whole problem. In an interview obtained by the writer with Tom Irwin, in charge of public relations for the Municipal Railway System, that official revealed that good public conduct, a control of temper in face of anger, plus the ability to perform the duties of conductor or motorman were the chief instruments the railway system employed to break a vital manpower bottleneck.

The railway company needed men to operate its vast rolling stock. The source from which it had been formerly recruited had been depleted. The Negro worker represented a large untapped field of supply. Yet, company officials were reluctant to touch it for fear of touching off a verboten social fuse that would soon ignite into a labor explosion. But, little more than a year ago an attempt was made to push a Negro, Audley Cole by name, through civil service.

4-29-44

The company promptly hired him. He was assigned as a motorman. Here, the company's suspicions were justified. No motorman would go out on a trip with Cole and act as his instructor. Despite company assignments, no man, regardless of his views on the matter, wanted to be the first to break the ice. No man wanted the 'finger of scorn' pointed to him as, "there goes that guy who broke in a N - - - ."

With the transportation union offering to pay any man's salary who was fired for refusing to take the Negro employe out on his run for instructions, the company was faced with a problem that loomed bigger than the original. This was solved only when the chief instructor, a member of the union, but also an official, himself took the man out and finished his 11-day training period. For doing so, that man had his face bashed in by goon squadders.

4-29-44

Throughout all this race bickering, threats of a major strike, union inspired public outburst against his employment and threats of personal injury Cole rode his car and stuck to his post. No harm happened to him. There was no strike. Cole after a few months working as a motorman and assured that others would take his place, decided that the job was unsuitable for him. He quit voluntarily.

Today, of the 1100 or 1200 men and women employed as streetcar operators over the Municipal system, 10 per cent or 110 of them are Negroes. A majority of these are women. The company also hires Mexicans, Portugese, Chinese and an Eskimo as trainmen. All of these were verboten before the war as employes. The Market Street Railway company also hires Negro men as operators of their cars. These employes fill ordinary regular runs and operate with mixed race and sex crews. With the exception of complaints from a few racephobist die-hards and the ordinary plaints of a tired and harassed public, the hiring of Negroes as trainmen in San Francisco is hardly noticeable. The public has gotten used to them.

4-29-44

Public relations man Tom Irwin laid particular stress on the fact that one of the first things his company attempted to do with all of its employes during their training period was to see to it that all of the chips were brushed clean off each one's shoulders. Then, he pointed out, the subject could be properly instructed in the do's and don't's that the company expects of its employes. He added that an open mind, a heart that could appreciate the other fellow's ordinary chagrin, plus a little politeness is the best balm known to heal the festering sores of race, color and religious prejudice.

The Negro Worker - Today And Tomorrow

Informer — Houston, Texas 7-1-44

By THYRA EDWARDS

A year ago the end of the war was nowhere in sight. Today it is freely being predicted that the German armies will be crushed by December. The great military analyst, Max Werner, chooses the month of November. As a result, there has been a decided increase in talk and action on postwar planning. The Senate has a committee, the trade unions have been drawing up plans, the War Production Board has a new committee working on a production plan predicated on the cancellation of war contracts. Private industry is drafting blueprints. A group of women leaders met with Mrs. Roosevelt last week at the White House for this same purpose.

Immediately the Negro asks: "What about me?" He remembers what happened during World War I. "The Negro is the last to be hired and the first to be fired."

7-1-44

This is one of the great problems facing America —and Negro workers have their fingers crossed.

The other day in Philadelphia, I sat chatting at a counter lunch with several trade unionists, Negro and white. They were from the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, Donald Henderson, Lewis Bentzley, John Tomlin. They were in the midst of a campaign to establish the union at American Tobacco Co., manufacturers of Roi Tan and Antonio and Cleopatra cigars. I wanted to know some of the gains in plants not previously employing Negroes.

"Well, right around here," Bentzley told me, "there's Campbell Soup in Camden, N. J. No Negro ever worked in that plant. We've got 700 there now. There's Loomis Peanut, never hired Negroes. The union broke that down. There's . . ."

The list was convincingly long. There are 70,000 Negroes in the Steel Workers Union alone.

But wartime industry is inflated industry. Labor is apprehensive. It remembers the late epic decade of world economic crisis, and Negro labor is particularly jittery. "Last to be hired and frist to be fired." Some war production contracts have been terminated already. At the Brewster plant recently, 15,000 workers were thrown out of work at the abrupt termination of a navy contract. Three weeks after only 9,000 of them had found other employment. In Detroit the problem is realistic — and full of dynamite. The Negro there has the burdens of a Job on his back.

7-1-44

What is being done to insure the definite gains made by Negro labor? Does organized labor have a plan or does it expect manna to fall from Heaven? Is it putting itself out any for the Negro worker —or does it expect that once the fat war contracts are cancelled, it will have to accept that old dog-eat-dog philosophy —"Every man for himself, boys?"

I have talked with many trade unionists about overall plans and about specific protection for the gains that Negro workers have made in the process of the war.

Paul Gardner, an international representative of CIO, with a brilliant record in California, told me that in CIO contracts with industry there are two provisions dealing with this.

First, workers shall be retained on the basis of seniority in the department. This precludes managerial favorites and the shifting of workers to departments as a maneuver to protect favorites.

7-1-44

"But Negroes are the last to be hired and the first to be fired," I reminded him.

"Wait a moment, lady. Let me finish," he interrupted pleasantly.

"Contracts provide further that plants must maintain the racial ratio of Negro workers. That is, regardless of seniority Negro workers must be retained in the same ratio to white workers.

"But guarantees of continued employment," he said. "That is the real plan aimed at."

And every union man I've talked to echoes it.

Freedom from the fear of unemployment! That is the start at which we're shooting. The gains we've made in the armed forces —Army and Navy officers, aviators, nurses, Red Cross workers — excellent as they are — do not touch peacetime economy. Employment is the crux of our lives, jobs and politics.

Governments, employers, organized labor, all are planning. What are our own plans? Organized labor has its eyes open, but what are Negro leaders doing or thinking of doing? Are they putting all their hopes in the FEPC — the Negro's most tangible gain so far in World War II, brought into this world as a planned birth by the organized labor movement, namely, Philip Randolps's Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters (AFL), and which is now fighting for its life in the Senate? Are they hoping for someone else to carry the battle forward?

We shall explore this further next week.

Negro Women Hired To Clean Street Cars In Kansas City

Journal + Guide — Norfolk, Va.

7-1-44

KANSAS CITY, Mo.—(ANP)—A new experiment in the way a car assigned to regular duty, when it reaches the end of its run, on some trip after 9 a. m. of street car cleaning service. The operator will presumably was announced here when blue have time for a smoke while the uniformed colored women ap- sued statements showing that colpeared for the first time in the ored employees draw over one-city's history as street car clean- fourth of the city's jobs. ers.

While the "tripper" cars will be cleaned at the barns and yet unsuccessful, campaign has been waged to draw the colored people away from Dawson. The Dawson boosters felt obligated to present facts and figures about the present Dawson administration.

The women made their ap- garages as usual, the trolley pearance at five terminals gasoline busses will get their ex- Their job, to clean all cars that tra cleaning at the hands of were not cleaned during the women squads when they night at the car barn. The ap- taken off their runs after the pearance of the women in the morning rush and are held in employ of the Kansas City Pub- readiness for the evening rush. lic Service company has been labeled as a tryout to make up for the manpower shortage.

7-1-44

Ninety-eight of the Charleston's 348 employees are colored. They have jobs in many city departments and bureaus. There are ten colored police officers and six

The women cleaning crews utilization of much untapped la- will surround a base car, that is bor by the street car company.

Race Gets Over a Fourth Of Charleston's Payroll

American Guardian, Baltimore, Md.

5-5-44

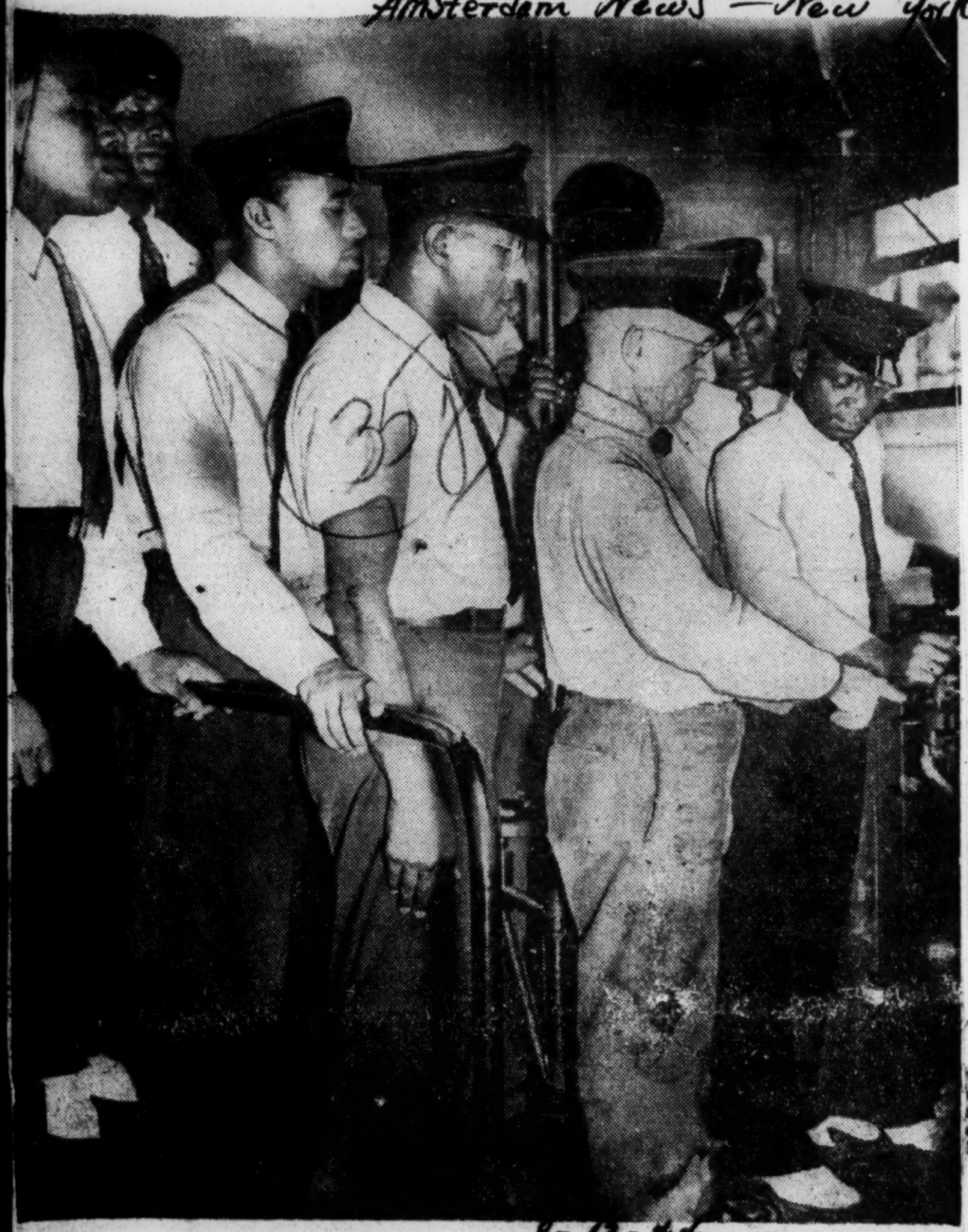
CHARLESTON, W.Va.—(CPB)—Supporters for the nomination of D. Boone Dawson, Republican candidate for governor, have issued statements showing that colored employees draw over one-fourth of the annual city payroll.

For some weeks, a determined, unsuccessful, campaign has been waged to draw the colored people away from Dawson. The Dawson boosters felt obligated to present facts and figures about the present Dawson administration.

Ninety-eight of the Charleston's 348 employees are colored. They have jobs in many city departments and bureaus. There are ten colored police officers and six

Here're the Men Who "Started" Philly Tieup

Amsterdam News — New York, N. Y. 8-12-44



CLOSEUP OF MEN who caused Philadelphia's transit tieup shows James Stewart, a former musician, learning all he can. Photo was made at PTC's plant, 3rd Avenue near Wyoming Avenue. William Poinell is the instructor. Others looking on are Joseph Jones, Frederick Todd, Emmett Wigglesworth, Rufus Lancaster, William Barber and Thomas Allen.

8-12-44

HERE'S ONE OF PHILADELPHIA'S eight Negro prospective employees undergoing instruction the day before 1,000 whites walked out on strike. He's Lewis Thompson, employed 8 years in the maintenance division of the PTC. This week, the Army was in control after a 5-day strike but it appeared as if the Quaker City's civic, political and religious leaders had won a major point in our favor.

8-12-44

Report Hull Favors Negro

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.

Phone Girls

6-24-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. (NNPA) —The possibility that the first Negro girls to operate telephone switchboards in the government may occur in the Senate Department was revealed in a reported conversation between the Secretary of State, Cordell Hull, and the chief telephone operator at the department.

Considerable difficulty has been experienced in keeping switchboard operators — the girls leaving for better paying jobs elsewhere. The chief operator pointed out to the Secretary, so the story is reported, that there was danger of the communications breaking down in the service.

"What about getting some Negro girls," the Secretary is reported to have asked.

When the chief operator threatened to resign in such an event, the Secretary is said to have asked: "Well, aren't they citizens?"

The chief operator is alleged to have told the Secretary that there isn't a single Negro girl operating a switchboard for the government in Washington. 6-24-44

To this the Secretary replied: "Well, this might be a good place to start."

35g-1944

THE EIGHT NEGRO TRANSIT WORKERS WHO WERE UP-GRADED TO MOTORMEN IN PHILADELPHIA

These eight men are the members of the first class for colored motormen in the history of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. Left to right: Joseph Jones, Frederick Todd, James Stewart, Emmett Wigglesworth, Rufus Lancaster, Lewis Thompson, William Barber and Thomas Allen. Taking their first turn at the controls, the men gather around Instructor William Boisel.

(Photos courtesy of the Philadelphia Tribune)

Passengers And Officials Praise Girl Train Porter

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

8-24-44

Year's Record Of Service By Miss Maggie Hudson Commended

BALTIMORE — (ANP) —With a year's record for service behind her, Miss Maggie Hudson, one of the few women train porters in America, was praised by passengers and railroad officials for her excellent service last week.

A beautiful girl with bright dancing eyes and an alert, vivacious manner, Miss Hudson's record as a train porter on the Baltimore and Ohio railroad marks an unusual invasion of women in a man's job, due to the critical wartime manpower shortage. Her record shows scores of letters by passengers who praise her work.

"I like people and I suppose that is the reason they like me," she remarked when asked about her extraordinary service record.

NATIVE OF MISS. 8-24-44

Born in Mississippi in 1919, Miss Hudson attended grade and high school there. Her parents died within two months of each other when she was nine years old but her brother, a steel worker in Gadsden, Ala., supported her and later arranged to have her go to East St. Louis.

Miss Hudson is assigned to the Chicago Express, westbound train, and the Metropolitan Special, eastbound, two of the most heavily traveled B and O trains between Washington and Cumberland.

On the Baltimore and Ohio, women have for many years filled many different kinds of jobs, from assistant general attorneys to clearers. But train service has always been considered too rigorous for them until train porter ranks were depleted by the demand by the armed forces. A number of women are working as train porters.

The B and O considers Miss Hudson a prize example of women stepping into men's shoes.

Employs Negroes As Operators,

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

Sept. 2, 1944

Upgrades Others

Chairman Ross Commends Unit For Prompt Action

WASHINGTON —(SNS) — The Los Angeles Railway Corporation has complied with the directive of August 9, which sought to end discrimination in the employment of Negroes, Malcolm Ross, Chairman of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, announced Tuesday.

On September 1, three weeks after the corporation agreed to comply "within a reasonable time," P. B. Harris, President of the Railway Corporation has complied with the directive and that six other Negro workers have been employed Negroes for cars and has also operators and has graded Negroes in the shops and ges. Directive has been com- with both on the Los An- Railway Corporation Angeles Coach Lines."

L. Kingman reported that Railway Employees, Division 1277 Negro men and women (AFL) for its cooperation. already serving as conductors

mittee further directs that the Los Angeles Railway Corporation upgraded notify in writing the committee's director for Region XII when it has effected compliance with this directive. Mr. Ross has given within a period to be fixed by the said regional director, fifteen days after the date of paragraph 4, which states, "The committee shall be notified by the Los Angeles Railway Corporation, wrote to Harry L. Kingman, FEPC regional direc- tor as follows: "This letter is in compliance with directive issued by the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices Case No. 66, Paragraph 4, which states, 'The com- This is to state that the Los An- are alrea

San Francisco gets used to Negro transit operators

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif. 8-26-44

SAN FRANCISCO — The "Case of Audley Cole" has been pretty well forgotten today, but the victory that Cole won over two years ago after fighting for months to be hired as a motorman by the Municipal Railway has had remembered results.

Today, everyone in San Francisco has grown used to seeing Negro men and women running buses and streetcars, collecting fares and handing out transfers.

Just how are the Negroes getting along?

Maryland-born-and-bred Gardner Griffith, Public Relations man for the Market Street Railway, was asked that question yesterday. He said, "I'm a Southerner — but I want to tell you that the Negroes have done a marvelous job for us.

8-26-44

"I hate to think of the mess we'd been in now if we didn't have Negro conductors and motormen!"

He went on, "they've really given marvelous performance for us and we're particularly proud of our Negro women employes. We couldn't get along without them."

WOMEN PRAISED

The Market Street Company hired Negroes before the Municipal line was forced to take similar action. Out of a total of 1300 platform men now employed by them, 250 are Negroes.

Mrs. Eleanor Kenney who is in charge of all of their women employes was even more enthusiastic about the Negro workers.

"The Negro girls are cordial, friendly and very easy to work with. They take their jobs seriously."

8-26-44

According to Mrs. Kenny, the turnover of Negro women is slightly higher than that of white women workers, but she blames bad housing for the difference.

"The Negro women are so restricted as to housing that some of them just get desperate and leave. It's a very bad situation and we are powerless to do anything to help them. I've tried, but it's simply impossible."

MUNI AGREES

The Municipal Railway, which held out against hiring Audley Cole now has pretty much the same attitude that the Market Street Railway has.

A spokesman for the Utilities Commission declared Friday: "Why, I hate to think of the mess we'd be in if we hadn't started hiring Negroes when we did. They have enabled us to keep the cars and buses rolling for the thousands of war workers who depend upon us for transportation.

"The Negroes get along in fine style with the white operators and we have had surprisingly few complaints from southern white passengers. I don't know what we would have done without them."

GOOD UNIONISTS

James L. Wilson, President of Street Carmen Division 1004, the Market Street Railway local, had a new angle to the question.

"The Negroes are doing a fine job and the union is completely satisfied. As a matter of fact, they are more conscientious about attending union meetings and signing up after they're hired than the white workers are. We have no complaint." 8-26-44

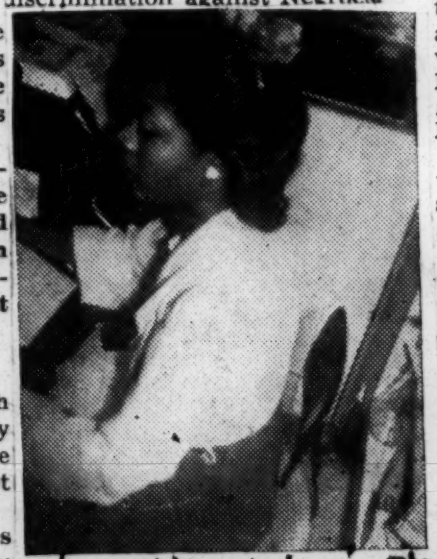
Henry S. (Mike) Foley, president and business agent of Division 518 where most of the resistance to hiring Negroes originated, also declared himself well-satisfied with the performance of the Negroes.

"They get along fine with the white operators and passengers and we have no kick against them."

Los Angeles Trains 12 Negro Motormen

Courier-Journal Louisville, Ky. 8-31-44

Los Angeles, Aug. 30 (AP)— Twelve Negroes, eight men and four women, began receiving instructions today as motormen for the Los Angeles Railway Corporation as the transit line started compliance with a Government directive to cease alleged discrimination against Negroes.



The Whip—Miami, Fla.

Marguerite Pinckney, first and only Negro Western Union operator in the State of Florida. Miss Pinckney is a graduate of Booker T. Washington High School. — Whip Foto.

Artist Believes Race Has Future In Commercial Art

Informer—Houston, Texas 9-30-44

By BERNICE And DOLORES CALVIN

NEW YORK — (Calvin's News Service) — Robert S. Pious, the suave and soft-spoken artist who does those commercial drawings for the Office of War Information that you see each week in your favorite Negro newspaper, lit a cigarette, found an ashtray and returned to his workbench. He was making a deadline. "I get jittery when these deadlines come up on me —sometimes I have to work straight thru the night" said our subject as he whisked over his painting lightly with the hand of a knowing artist.

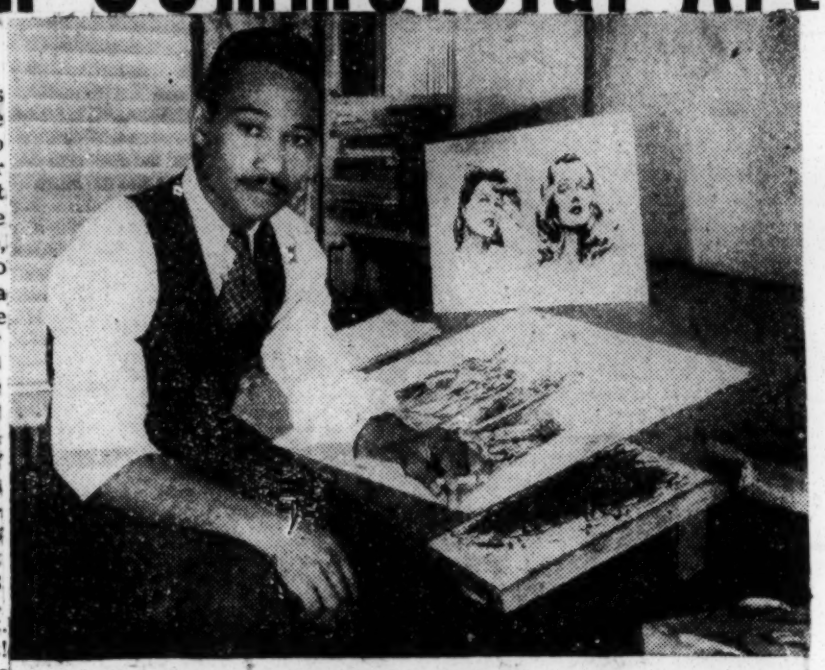
Sensitive at 36, Bob's life is that of anyone aspiring to be "the best in his field." Born down in Meridian, Mississippi, he came to St. Louis at 6; married in Chicago at 18; at 20, young Pious was studying 8 hours a day at the Chicago Art Institute and working 14 hours a night. We still don't know how he did it!

Opportunity knocked at the Pious home in 1929 and Bob did a portrait of Roland Hayes for the Harmon Foundation. For this, he won the Spingarn Black and White prize. From then on, it was smooth sailing. 9-30-44

A New Yorgker at 23, he studied at the National Academy of Design under scholarship. He was commissioned to paint Marian Anderson. (Husband O. Hodge Fisher gave it to her as a Christmas present.) Two of his paintings, bought by Dublin University in Ireland, are hanging on the Cambridge Museum walls.

Wife Ruth Pious, to whom Bob gives the credit of his success, is artistic herself. She buys all of his ties and shirts. Though he doesn't like vegetables, she insists he eat them. He loves good plays and reads a great deal, especially books on the Negro.

"When there's peace again — we want a little farm out somewhere so we can raise a few things," he added. "And by the way," we asked, "what type of art are you going to do then?" With a half grin Bob Pious said "Me?— well I'm hoping to go back to portraits and murals." They were his first love.



ROBERT S. PIOUS

Negro elevator operators while advertising for white ones, an example of the economic reaction facing Negroes as the war nears an end," the Rev. Aron S. Gilmartin, national chairman of the Workers Defense League, wired Senator Dennis Chavez and Rep. Mary Norton, chairmen of the Senate and House Committees in charge of the bill for a Permanent Fair Employment Practices Committee, urging them to report the bill to the Senate and House for immediate action. 9-25-44

The House Labor Committee, of which Mrs. Norton is chairman, has announced that the hearings on the Dawson-Scanlon-Lafollette Bill for a permanent FEPC are postponed until after elections. The Rev. Gilmartin's wire to Mrs. Norton also asked how each member of the House Labor Committee had voted on the postponement, which the WDL chairman called 'a slap in the face to 2,000,000 members of minority groups serving in the armed forces."

ary, 1943, when the Agency was awarded a plaque by the United Federal Workers of America for having the best race relations policy among government agencies, the OPA revealed this week.

Commenting on these figures, Price Administrator Chester Bowles said:

"I am impressed to find that 476 persons, of 12 per cent of our staff here, are Negroes, and that of the positions held by Negroes, about 30 per cent are of professional rank. I am glad that Negroes hold so many responsible positions."

Beginning with the Office of the Administrator, the staffs of every division and nearly every branch in the agency contain, on an integrated basis, some Negro members.

Memphis store reconverts to white workers

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif.

MEMPHIS—Charging that "the Brys department store, the largest in Memphis, Tenn., is reconverting to prejudice, by discharging its

Negroes Now Hold 12% Of OPA Jobs

Defender—Chicago, Ill. 9-30-44

WASHINGTON.—Negro employment in the national office of the Office of Price Administration has risen to 12 per cent of the total force, from 1½ per cent in Janu-

35g-1944

PHILADELPHIA TROLLEY OPERATOR SAYS CUSTOMERS TREAT HIM FINE.— 8-25-44

Here is Thomas Allen, now a full-fledged motorman, at the wheel of a Philadelphia street car as the conductor, J. Hanel, takes a fare from a customer. Allen is one of the 8 men whose training as motormen led to the recent strike and transportation tie-up in the City of Brotherly Love. Seven of the men are now operating trolleys. Allen, who has 16 years' service with the transportation company, said after his first day, "The trolley riders have all accepted me as a friend, just as though I always was a motorman.—Peace Photo.

Textiles Use Few Negroes

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

WASHINGTON — (ANP) — Confronted with increased demands from the armed forces for the production of cotton products, textile plants, particularly in the North, have been slow to use Negroes to meet their manpower needs, the War Manpower Commission revealed last Friday. 9-16-44

The industry is faced with the need for hiring nearly a quarter of a million workers by November 1 in order to expand its output to meet fully the estimated demand for cotton goods, WMC declared. As yet, only a small number of cotton textile plants have made manpower utilization surveys or sought this service from WMC.

Manpower commission reported that the use of non-white workers in the cotton textile industry is slowly increasing. Non-whites made up 4.5 per cent of the work force in May, 1944, as compared with 3.4 per cent in March 1943. Southern plants averaged 5.3 per cent and northern plants one per cent.

Md. Negro Hiring Increases in 1944

Post—Washington, D.C.

Baltimore, Sept. 5 (AP).—Negro hiring in Maryland increased 3.8 per cent during the first half of 1944 over the previous calendar year, Social Security Board figures showed today.

Director O. C. Pogge of the board's bureau of old-age and survivors insurance, said that 31.8 per cent of the 29,905 Social Security account numbers issued in the first two quarters of 1944 went to Negroes. 9-6-44

Pogge also said that the 68,659 numbers issued in the Free State in 1943 represented a sharp drop from the 1942 peak of 82,521.

13 Operate L. A. Trolleys

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

LOS ANGELES—(ANP) — Thirteen Negro transit workers, who were upgraded after a recent FEPC investigation against job discrimination, are now operating street cars and buses here without any racial incidents.

The group consists of four women conductors, five motormen and conductors and two bus drivers, according to L. A. Reeves, director of publicity for the Los Angeles Railway Corp.

"We have something here the country can look at," Reeves said, "and it's working out much better than we expected." 9-16-44

Reeves revealed that the 13 Negroes were chosen after a survey had been made of the 400 Negro transit employes who were porters and coach cleaners. The 13, Reeves said, have been distributed throughout four of the company's six divisions and are reported to be doing well.

The FEPC's order against job discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin was supported by the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street Electric Railway Motor Coach workers and civic organizations.

Directory Lists 28 Undertakers

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

NEW YORK.—"Who's Who Among Colored Funeral Directors" lists 182 firms, twenty-six of which are headed by women.

Women directors include:

Mrs. D. A. Whitaker, Columbus, Ohio; Mrs. Katie Williams, Baltimore, Md.; Miss Lula V. Stewart, Lynchburg, Va.; Mrs. Louise Hart, New York City; Miss Frizette V. Duckett, New York City;

Miss Frances A. Keith, McKeesport, Pa.; Mrs. W. F. Kelsey, Salisburg, N.C., Mrs. Preston P. Latimore, Tampa, Fla.; Mrs. Jennie Morris, Philadelphia;

Mrs. E. Howard Murphy, Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. Leila Y. Payne, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Mrs. Pauline Pratt, Jacksonville, Fla.; Mrs. Johnnie Robinson, Rock Hill, S.C.;

Miss Anna E. Sewell, New York City; Mrs. G. J. Tate, Miss Anna J. Thompson, East St. Louis, Ill.; Mrs. B. B. Anderson, St. Louis, Mo; Mrs. Florence E. Brown, NYC; 9-16-44

Miss Salada Dabney, Ashland, Va.; Mrs. E. R. Delaney, Cincinnati, Ohio; Mrs. Charles H. Gray, Wilmington, Del.; Mrs. Geneva Haugabrooks, Atlanta, Ga.; Mrs. Frances Hemsley, Baltimore;

Mrs. Cora I. Jamison, Cincinnati, Ohio; Miss Anna Mae Mannigault, Columbia, S.C., Mrs. W. H. McGavock, Nashville, T.

Negro Conductorettes Man Trolleys In San Francisco

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.

By CALVIN GILBERT

SAN FRANCISCO (ANP)—Gas rationing, speed up in ship production and the manufacture of other war essentials make transportation one of this city's pressing problems, which have caused the employment of a large number of Negro women on the transportation system here. 4-29-44

With three differently owned street car systems, the cars are packed with shipyard workers who must travel to the suburban areas of this city or to the outlying towns of the bay area. Several small holding companies furnish buses which ply along the water front and on the outskirts of town. Another means of transportation is the cable car which was occasioned by the city's hilly, irregular landscape. Beside their usefulness, the cables are somewhat of a landmark or a counterpart of romantic old San Francisco.

The manpower shortage caused the employment of women operators and conductorettes. A number of Negro women are now manning the street cars and cable cars. One of the companies which employes a large number of Negro women is municipally owned and was the first of the two to throw open its doors of employment to Negroes. The alertness and sincerity of the Negro conductorettes have been praised. They are said to regard their job with more seriousness and sincerity of duty than the men employed in the same capacity. Attired in natty new uniforms that are smartly tailored, their appearance is very complimentary. Mannish caps are worn at a jaunty angle to afford a view of their immaculate well-groomed sepia hair.

Negro Riveter At Kaiser Shipyard Sets New Record

5-6-44

PROVIDENCE, R.I. (ANP) — A gang of riveters at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyard, led by Donald Turner, set a record at the yard last week, when they drove 2,514 rivets on the day shift. Turner himself led his crew by accounting for 575 rivets on Liberty ships being built at the yards. Officials of the shipyard pointed out that 800 rivets would have been considered a good day's work for a crew of that size in the allotted time. There were three others in Turner's crew.

Turner is a graduate of Central High school in Providence, and attended Rhode Island Boys' State at Rhode Island State college for a year. He served in the army for a time, but was discharged due to a slight disability. He is the son of Robert Turner of Providence, and his wife is the former Gladys White of Oaklawn, R.I.

However, she refused to be pinned down as to why sales and office jobs are not open to colored girls in view of the shortage of labor for those jobs.

Bars Up Despite Shortage

"I'm sorry," she said, "but I can't give you the reason why we don't use them in these positions. As far as I know, Wanamaker's has never hired them for jobs like that." 9-23-44

Workers Praised

Asked whether any attempt had

colored men and women on the Depart-payroll for more than twenty Ninth years.

In an exclusive interview with the AFRO, Miss Elizabeth Duffy, assistant personnel manager of Wanamaker's, explained that the store is anxious to hire people for stock room help, bus boys and bus girls, and maids and washroom attendants.

Women Street Car Operators Make Good In 'Frisco'

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

5-6-44

SAN FRANCISCO.—(ANP)—Gas rationing, speed up in ship production and the manufacture of other war essentials make transportation one of this city's pressing problems, which have caused the employment of a large number of Negro women on the transportation system here.

With three differently owned street car systems, the cars are packed with shipyard workers who must travel to the suburban areas of this city or to the outlying towns of the bay area. Several small holding companies furnish buses which ply along the water front and on the outskirts of town. 5-6-44

Another means of transportation is the cable car which was occasioned by the city's hilly, irregular landscape. Besides their usefulness, the cables are somewhat of a landmark or a counter part of romantic old San Francisco.

The manpower shortage caused the employment of women operators and conductorettes. A number of Negro women are now manning the street cars and cable cars. One of the companies which employs a large number of Negro women is municipally owned and was the first of the two to thr[illegible] open its doors of employment [illegible] Negroes.

Wanamaker's Has Jobs for Menials Only in N.Y.

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

9-23-44

By FRANKLIN MARSHALL

The John Wanamaker Department Store, located at Ninth Street and Broadway, is now employing colored help for all types of work except in sales positions.

Considered one of the few high-class stores of its type in New York and enjoying a fine reputation built upon years of good service to the public, it has had

ever been made to try them out for the jobs mentioned, she replied:

"No, we never did."

Miss Duffy went on to praise several colored male elevator operators who had been in their employ since the original John Wanamaker took over the store, a period of twenty or more years.

"We always employed colored people here," she explained. "It wasn't due to the war that we hired them, either. The store is satisfied with their work and we intend to keep them even after the war is over.

"We have had some trouble in the stock department where we have often been forced to place colored girls because no men were available at the time.

No Increase Due to War

"This is very hard work and too heavy for a girl. Only last week, we tried out a girl there and had to take her out at the end of a week for fear she'd get sick.

"Some of our colored maids have also been with us for many years. They like their work and intend to stay here permanently.

"Come to think of it, a proof of the fact that we don't employ colored only because we have to, due to the labor shortage, is that there are hardly more of them in the store now than there were before the war.

"They know that at John Wanamaker's they have security and a permanent job which will be very important once peace comes. I think that is very important for colored people to have."

Miss Duffy refused to reveal how many colored employees were on the payroll, despite the fact that she knew the number had not increased since the war.

Personal Observations

Although John Wanamaker's is admittedly a high-class store, Lord and Taylors falls into the same category and now employs three colored salesgirls.

Miss Duffy has no reason to offer for this discrimination against colored people nor why they never even made an effort to try out colored girls in sales and office jobs.

It is obvious that they employ colored in only the menial and low-paying jobs where whites wouldn't work, and reserve the better jobs for those whom they see fit.

Quota System

Her efforts to prove that there has been no increase in colored employment since the war can mean only one thing.

Wanamaker's must have a quota system on the number of colored people employed and is unwilling to increase it even during the present labor crisis. It undoubtedly fills only vacancies which colored help create by leaving for more remunerative jobs.

In this way, the store is making sure that the end of the war will find the same number of colored people on the payroll as were there in peace time, and it will have eliminated a problem of firing them should it want to decrease the set quota.

The jim-crow policy of Wanamaker's must have taken a long time to figure out. It's no credit to the store's managers.

To Probe Memphis Postal Jim Crow

MEMPHIS (ANP)—On the basis of reports that no Negroes have been appointed to regular positions in the United States mail service here since 1939, post office department officials at Washington have agreed to an investigation of the situation with a view to uncovering any racial discrimination which may have been practiced against colored applicants, William J. Arnold, welfare director of the National Alliance of Postal Employees, reported last week. He stated that during the Christmas mail rush of 1943, two Negro substitute carriers were given work by the Memphis post office, but were dropped before February 1.

Philly Motormen

PHILADELPHIA

In compliance with War Manpower Commission regulations, the Philadelphia Transportation Company announced July 8 that colored men would be transferred to jobs as operators of street cars and busses and might be operating early in September.

Notices were posted in car barns stating that all qualified applicants for employment will be accepted "without regard to race, creed or color." Many have already applied, PTC officials said, and will be judged solely on the basis of qualifications and aptitude.

A spokesman said further that only transfer requests would be received until July 21, when the 21-day training period begins. After then, he added, outside applicants will be considered.

Seniority to Rule

The notices said further that company seniority will rule in filling jobs for higher classification and the preference would be given employees in the department where the vacancy occurs.

The Transport Workers' Union, CIO, bargaining agent, approved the notice, declaring: "We support all efforts made by any agency of the U.S. Government to improve employment in the interest of the war effort."

Colored Motormen to Drive PTC Cars Within 2 Mon

The fight with the Philadelphia Transportation Company has been won and in less than two months the hold of the company union that ascribed second class citizenship to colored workers at PTC will be completely broken and they will be upgraded and hired into skilled positions, James J. Fitzsimmons, international vice-president of the Transport Workers Union, CIO, told the audience at the first mass meeting of the United People's Action Committee held Sunday at Town Hall, 150 north Broad street.

Attorney Charles H. Houston, most recent member of the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, guest speaker, told the audience that the fundamental principle for FEPC was the squaring of the profession of democracy with the practice of democracy. He added that the only stand the people can take with the Rankins and Bilbos is one of no surrender or compromise, for such men are digging the grave of America with their mouths.

Arthur H. Fauset, chairman of the UPAC, told of the committee's action in securing funds to engage David Levinson, labor and civil liberties attorney, to defend Pvt. Leo Jones, Philadelphia soldier, charged with inciting to riot, at Dale Mabry Field, Tallahassee, Fla.

Others on the program were: Henrietta Buckmaster, authoress and biographer of Harriet Tubman; Magistrate Joseph H. Rainey, Rabbi J. Gerson Brenner; Thomas M. Reed, Four Keys, and Miss Ethel Hibbard, speaking for Olivia S. Henry.

In an appeal for pledges to carry on the work of UPAC $350 in cash was donated and $400 in pledges received. Copies of "The Races of Mankind" by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish were distributed.

Rev. William Jeffries, chaplain at Episcopal Academy, pronounced the benediction.

Negro Women Are Now Employed as Street Car Conductors in San Francisco

By CALVIN GILBERT

SAN FRANCISCO. — (ANP)— Gas rationing, speed up in ship production and the manufacture of other war essentials make transportation one of this city's pressing problems, which have caused the employment of a large number of Negro women on the transportation system here.

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They are said to regard their job with more seriousness and sincerity of duty than the men employed in the same capacity. Attired in natty new uniforms that are smartly tailored, their appearance is very complimentary. Mannish caps are worn at a jaunty angle to afford a view of their immaculate well-groomed sepia hair.

Many of these women are said to be the only sweethearts and wives of servicemen who came here to say their "last goodbye." Negro women are also employed at the two car barns in varied lines of work, principally in serving and maintenance work.

The difficulties encountered by the street car union to get Negro workers placed was cited by a white street car employe. He told how a movement had been sponsored to employ Negroes in the service of the larger bus companies (transcontinental). The excuse made by the companies was the extra expense of constructing extra toilet facilities for white and colored employes.

One of the outstanding champions of unionism and of civil liberties for the Negro is Harry Bridges, an Australian by birth and head of the powerful west coast longshoremen's union. They make it possible for Negro stevedores to play an important part in all union activities.

Fifty Men, 15 Girls Make Good On Coast Teams

Not Limited To Lines Running In Race Districts

LOS ANGELES— (ANP)— Local colored citizens are highly gratified at the sight of men and women of the race operating as conductors and conductorettes on the cars of the Los Angeles Street Railway Co. To date there are 50 men and 15 women who have completed training under the supervision of veteran white trainmen and have been assigned regular runs.

It is a noticeable fact that contrary to the expectations of many citizens they are not being limited to the 'U', 'B', 'V', 'S', and other lines most heavily traveled by Negroes and traversing the heavily populated Negro districts, but are also on various other lines. In fact, the majority of them were trained from car barns in the far westside and other sections of the city where few if any colored residents are located.

Although direct action by the FEPC during its special meeting and hearings held here last summer finally broke down the racial bars that had been in existence ever since the railway was established, the coast's most militant civic leader, the Rev. Clayton D. Russell had spurred citizens and city officials into a demand for a showdown.

Just a year ago at a capacity mass meeting at his Independent Church of Christ, he called for 50 volunteers who would meet at the main office of the railway company and fill out applications for jobs. In a few minutes double the number signed with the committee and from his pulpit Rev. Russell now adjures the reported at the big Broadway building, all filling out applications. Over the radio and from his colored traveling public to be tolerant with inexperienced employes. The news of this peaceful "march" spread throughout the state and lined up hundreds of jobs to be opened whites on the sides of their colored fellow Americans whose employment would alleviate the inadequate traffic conditions. their efficiency will keep them in as well, so them after the war.

35g-1944

Gloom Shrouds Conference At Howard Univ.

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga. 10-26-44

Postwar FEPC Is Forecast As Race's Sole Hope

By HARRY McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—A thread of gloom ran through the discussions of the Postwar Industrial Outlook for Negroes at the conference held at Howard University last week under auspices of the Division of the Social Sciences of the Graduate School and co-sponsored by the A. Philip Randolph Fund.

Almost without exception, speaker after speaker pointed out the problems Negroes would face would be almost insurmountable unless we have full employment. There was fairly general agreement that a permanent FEPC will be needed to help overcome these obstacles. 10-26-44

The conference was devoted to consideration of the problems in the ship-biulding, aircraft, automobile, railroad and steel industries. Further discussions were held of the federal policies prohibiting racial discrimination in industry and the labor and fiscal policies of the federal government.

A keynote was struck by Lieut. Col. John K. Collins, of the Bureau of Placement of the War Manpower Commission, on the opening night of the conference when he said: "About seventy per cent of the working Negroes in war industries are in temporary, emergency, mushroom industries, such as shipbuilding, aircraft manufacture, munitions, etc. Two-thirds of these Negro workers have acquired skilled and semi-skilled ratings and pay. Yet it is precisely this group which will, as contracts are concluded and as cutbacks are made, be 'dumped' on a labor market in which it has been difficult for one-third of the working Negro population to secure other than unskilled and menial jobs." 10-26-44

Copies of the proceedings of the conference will be available in about two months. They may be obtained from the Division of Social Sciences, Graduate School, Howard University, by addressing Dr. Abram L. Harris, professor of economics.

Checks On Fungus

Daily World—Atlanta

10-29-44

Miss Ruth Wyant, biologist, is shown making a test in General Electric Company's scientific fungus farm. She and other scientists in the G-E laboratories are seeking to render completely harmless the fungi parasites, which now impair the striking power and durability of delicate and vitally important war equipment in humid and tropical areas. Miss Wyant, who is 25 years old understands the destructive prowess of the moldy fungi so well that she classifies them in formally as barbaric allies of the Japanese.

Porter Awarded Gold Pass

Tribune—Houston, Texas 10-21-44

MEMPHIS.—(ANP)—A reward for faithful and loyal service as a train porter for 50 years in the Illinois Central system was received Friday by Taylor William Twigg. The presentation was made by T. K. Williams superintendent of the Kentucky division.

Supt. Williams in the presentation of the gold pass on behalf of the Illinois Central, thanked Twigg for his loyal service and asserted the Twigg family undoubtedly held the championship for train portering on the Illinois Central having totaled almost 150 years of active family service.

The three Twigg brothers are Taylor, 50 years; Add, 47 years, and Louis, 50. The Twiggs are from Fulton county, Kentucky.

Negroes Urged As Bus Operators

Interracial Body May Study Plan

Mayor Wilson W. Wyatt's Interracial Committee may be asked to survey and give an opinion on the proposed use of Negro bus and streetcar operators, the War Manpower Commission said yesterday.

The W.M.C. said it had recommended the use of Negroes to the Louisville Railway Company and that the board of directors of the transportation system had suggested the matter be presented to the Interracial Committee and to other civic groups to sound out public opinion.

Several months ago, the W.M.C. asked the railway company to use more Negroes to stretch its manpower. A W.M.C. specialist in racial and minority group hiring practices, Larry Duncan, came here from Cleveland last week to check into the proposal, but no report has been made of his discussions or findings.

Negroes Operate Los Angeles Cars Without Friction

Weekly—New Orleans, La. 9-16-44

(By The Associated Negro Press)

Los Angeles, Sept 13.—Thirteen Negro transit workers, who were upgraded after a recent FEPC investigation against job discrimination, are now operating street cars and buses here without any racial incidents. The group consists of four women conductors, five motormen and conductors and two drivers, according to L. A. Reeves, director of publicity for the Los Angeles Railway Corp., last week.

"We have something here the country can look at," Reeves said, "and it's working out much better than we expected."

Reeves revealed that the 13 Negroes were chosen after a survey had been made of the 400 Negro transit employes who were porters and coach cleaners. The 13, Reeves said, have been distributed throughout four of the company's six divisions and are reported to be doing well. 9-16-44

The FEPC's order against job discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin was supported by the Local Amagamated Association of Street Electric Railway Motor Coach workers and civic organizations. At least 500,000 war workers, who travel about 52 miles daily, will be assured of reaching their jobs by further injection of Negro manpower.

NEGRO CHURCH WORKERS GET 700 TO WORK

Star Of Zion—Charlotte, N.C.

Colored Ministers of Wilson NCarry Out Recruiting Program

9-28-44

A group of ministers from the Wilson Negro Ministerial Association came to the rescue of the tobacco processing plants and employment officials in the city and solved a knotty problem through a close canvass which resulted in recruiting about 700 workers in one week of intensive activity.

In the process they proved what they believe to be true, that more can be accomplished in securing cooperation through information and sympathetic explanation of the problem involved than through force or threat.

Also, they have demonstrated, they believe, that the white and Negro races can handle their problems through a cooperative spirit and mutual understanding. 9-28-44

At any rate, they have accomplished a job which had caused many misgivings among the employers and employment service personnel, and thus were able to contribute greatly to saving a crop on which the economic life of the city largely depends.

Mrs. Jeanette M. Grainger, dynamic and resourceful manager of the local office of the U. S. Employment Service of the War Manpower Commission, was almost at her wit's end in trying to figure ways of supplying the needs of the tobacco processing plants—handling a seasonal and perishable crop. Her mind turned to the Negro ministers, with whom she had established a very cordial relationship. She attended a meeting of the Negro Ministerial Association and explained the problem to the group. 9-28-44

The ministers assured her of their desire to cooperate. Rev. C. T. Jones, pastor of Ebenezer Baptist church and president of the association named a special committee to handle the problem, headed by Rev. W. A. Hilliard, pastor of St. John's A. M. E. Zion Church. The Negro areas of Wilson were mapped out and sections were assigned to each of the ministers, heading a workers' committee of men and women.

Richard S. Turner, experienced manpower recruiting officer of the War Manpower Commission, now in charge of the Raleigh Negro U. S. Employment Service office, was sent to Wilson by Dr. J. S. Dorton, State manpower director, and spent two days with the group giving them instructions in techniques and methods of manpower recruiting.

Preliminary work included the use of the 15-minute period on Sunday night of the C. H. Darden and Sons, funreal directors, by Mrs. Grainger to explain the need for workers and the campaign to be conducted. Mrs. Grainger also, on invitation of the ministers, appeared during church services of four of the churches and made five-minute talks in support of the campaign. On the next Sunday, she appeared in like manner at five of the Negro churches. 9-28-44

Cooperating with Mrs. Grainger and the Negro ministers in the program were Roy Gatchell, executive secretary of the Wilson Chamber of Commerce; John G. Thomas, of the Wilson Daily Times; Radio Station WGTM, and the officials of the tobacco processing plants.

NATIONAL URBAN LEAGUE RELEASES STATISTICS ON NEGRO WAR WORKERS

The National Urban League has just issued a summary report of the Industrial Relations Laboratory on the performance of Negro workers in war

production and other essential war employment. Additional Negro workers are anticipated in areas of severe labor shortages.

The employment of Negro women has not kept pace with the employment of white women or Negro men. Negroes worked in skilled occupations in 154 of the 300 plants; as semi-skilled workers in 247, and unskilled workers in all 300.

Ofifcials in 215 of the 300 plants said they were satisfied with the work of their Negro employes. In nine plants, management said they were not as good as white workers, and in 50 plants Negroe workers were described as fairly satisfactory.

In 253 of the 300 plants the management declared that on the basis of current experience with Negro labor, they would continue to employ them after the war. Twelve plants reported no decision, and the remaining 35 declined to make a commitment. Only 21 plants of the 300 reported friction between workers as a result of the employment of Negroes.

Radio Personnel Worker

Mrs Majorie Wicklffe, of the personnel department of the Magnavox Company, Fort Wayne, Ind., who has been doing this work for approximately five months and makes practically all contracts with colored employees on all phases dealing with the personnel office This includes teaching, instructing, advising, counselling and reprimanding. At present there are 7.1 per cent Negroes on the payroll at Magnavox to a 4 per cent Negro population in Fort Wayne.

First Negro L. A. Motorman Praised

LOS ANGELES — William McGilmore, Los Angeles' first Negro motorman, is being congratulated by relatives and friends, both white and colored on the splendid job he is doing with the city's street railway system. A native of Vicksburg, McGilmore learned to operate an automobile in his boyhood and boasts a driving record free of accidents. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Simon McGilmore of Vicksburg and resides at 2119 W. 28th St., in Los Angeles.

W. McGilmore

Jobs for All— Share the Work

Brooklyn, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The seniority and postwar job security have been discussed, among others by George Morris and Doxey Wilkerson and now at the CIO United Electrical Workers Convention. So far the only proposition brought forth is proportional layoff, which to my mind is worse than applying seniority rules as we know then, last hired, first fired. In adopting proportional seniority a new kind of "Jimcrow" is being created which, in the long run will be detrimental to the very ones we wish to protect. There can be only one seniority list if we mean to erase the color line. Our only salvation lies in jobs for all. The alternative is a share the work system. Unemployed whites are just as much a menace to organized labor as unemployed Negroes.

A UNION MAN

Toward Freedom

By Doxey Wilkerson

"A UE-CIO Worker," quite indignant over my last Monday's column, wrote to the Daily Worker: "I wonder if Doxey read **Teheran.** If he didn't I'll excuse him for writing that column. . . . But I'm most sure he did read it; therefore I can't understand how he underestimates the union's seniority clause. Is he going to take a defeatist attitude and say that there will be millions of unemployed and that we must try to save some of the Negroes' jobs?"

The letter continues: "Is it not our job to see that everybody who is willing to work has a job to earn a decent living? Then why must we of the unions discriminate against people, such as Negroes, soldiers, old men or women? That's what it would amount to, and some of the whites would hate Negroes for it."

"A UE-CIO Worker's" letter raises important issues concerning my proposal "to modify the **application** (not the principle) of seniority so as to assure that Negro workers will not bear a disproportionate share of postwar cutbacks." These issues are thoroughly discussed by Roy Hudson in yesterday's The Worker. I would add here merely the following:

FIRST, I did read Earl Browder's masterful Marxist analysis, **Teheran—Our Path in War and Peace.** One of the things it stressed is that the enduring peace and expanding world prosperity and freedom envisioned by the concord of Teheran are now entirely possible of attainment, **but they must be worked for, and their achievement is practically impossible without a strong and united labor movement playing a much larger role in the political life of America.**

The firm unity of Negro workers with their white fellow-unionists and the continued and strengthened alliance of the Negro people and labor generally are indispensable if the labor movement is to fulfill its crucial responsibilities in achieving the perspective of Teheran. But that unity and that alliance can (and probably will) be broken, with disastrous consequences for the unions and the nation, if postwar cutbacks result in the ousting of the bulk of Negro war workers from their jobs.

Negro Postwar Layoffs and Teheran

SECOND, the attainable goal of full postwar employment in no way implies that there will not be a temporary period of mass unemployment during reconversion from wartime to peacetime production. There will be such a period, in practically all war industries (including UE's), and the dangers it presents are not met by long-time programs of full employment.

Third, I share fully my critic's appreciation of the fundamental importance of seniority for the protection of workers' gains. Among those gains are the hundreds of thousands of new jobs which the unions have done so much to win for Negro war workers. The policy of seniority must be vigorously defended against its enemies. At the same time, it must be applied in this new historic era so as to promote, not destroy, the interests of the workers.

I again repeat that recent union conventions failed to face this **special** problem of Negro postwar cutbacks squarely. There is considerable unclarity on the question, even among some Negro trade union leaders. But the problem **must** be faced; it is crucial for the whole new perspective which the agreements of Teheran have opened up for our

Negro Bus Drivers Asked In St. Louis

ST. LOUIS— (ANP) — The St. Louis unit of the March on Washington movement "is doing everything possible to get Negro operators on buses and street cars," D. McNeal, director of the local unit, told 3,100 persons gathered last week in the Washington Tabernacle church.

David M. Grant, a member of the unit executive committee, told the audience how several complaints

White Collar Jobs on TVA

Call-Kansas City, Mo.

More Liberal Policy Adopted On U. S. Project

2-25-44

KNOXVILLE, Tenn. — (ANP)— TVA has long been a sore spot in the minds of many leading Negroes, who have brought charges against the old order of practicing racial discrimination and bias. Many still remember the rather unique admonition given them in an address by the former chairman, A. E. Morgan, several years ago in answer to their complaints. "Build your own TVA," said he.

According to a statement made by Harry L. Case, assistant personnel director, Monday night, the TVA will hereafter promote Negroes into clerks and stenographers' positions in Knoxville offices if they meet standard test requirements for such jobs.

The policy is not new, according to Mr. Case, who states that TVA's overall policy for several years has been to hire Negroes in general proportion to the population of Negroes in the area.

It was also announced that there will be no recruitment policy, but Negroes now serving as messengers, etc., will be promoted upon passing the test. In the past there have been a few white collar jobs held by Negroes but now "The personnel department is holding discussions exploring the possibility of promoting Negroes in situations where they are qualifies, to work with other employes," Case said. 2-25-44

"I know of only one white employe, so far, who has raised the question of Negroes working in positions in the personnel office." He also stated that there had been no friction to his knowledge growing out of the limited number of Negroes in such positions in office with others. "Aptitude and the ability to get along with other fellow workers count much," according to Mr. Case.

Negroes Gain In Industry

Courier-Pittsburg, Pa. 2-19-44

Extremely important are the findings of the National Urban League's Industrial Relations Laboratory embodied in a ten-page mimeographed report just issued from its New York City office.

Pointing out that at least 1,500,000 Negro workers are currently engaged in war production and other essential war employment, the Urban League agency reports that slightly more than 50 per cent of the 300 industries covered by its study use Negroes as skilled workers. and 75 per cent use them as semi-skilled workers.

While there has been much absenteeism and a too frequent chip-on-the-shoulder attitude on the part of a minority of Negro workers, their performance has been generally satisfactory and there has been comparatively little strife between workers on racial grounds, although serious flare-ups have occurred here and there.

It is pleasing to note that commendatory statements outnumbered unfavorable comments on the performance of Negro workers in the various skills for which they were employed. Most employers found Negro workers in the main. reliable and efficient. 2-19-44

The most important statement in the report is the following: "In 253 of the 300 industries, management declared that on the basis of current experience with Negro labor. they would continue to employ them after the war."

If this is the attitude of white capital after two years of experience with Negro labor doing skilled, semi-skilled and other work. then the outlook for the Negro in post-war America is brighter than ever before in our history.

Telephone Company

Daily World-Atlanta, Ga. 7-15-44

Hires First Negroes

By F. C. FISHER

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — The announcement that the Southwestern Bell Telephone Company was to open a branch office, to be manned by Negroes, Monday morning, was viewed as an encouraging step in our bitterest fight here, at home, for equal right and democracy.

The office has been established in the central section of St. Louis where the bulk of the race can transact telephone business with the public, including t. payment of telephone bills.

E. C. Robinson, who was for some time an employe at the suburb exchange of the Bell Company, will have charge of the new branch. He said, the office will be conducted along the same general lines as the main public office in the Telephone Building in the downtown district.

Three women employes, known as public office representaties, will be at their desks at the Vandeventer Avenue Exchange, Monday morning to accommodate customers who choose to handle their telephone business there. The women are, Mrs. Louvain A. Garin, Mrs. Atrell Smith, and Miss Evelyn Marie Anderson, Kirkwood, Mo.

The six other persons at the Vandeventer Exchange will handle the clerical work; billing charges for telephone calls which cannot be made direct and must be given to an operator for completing.

Railroad Notifies FEPC It Now Upgrades Negroes

Tribune-Washington D.C.

3-11-44

The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad has notified the Committee on Fair Employment Practice that Negro car cleaners are being promoted to positions as carmen's helpers and that colored dining waiters have been employed as dining car stewards, Malcolm Ross, FEPC chairman, announced this week.

The Chicago and Northwestern was one of the railroads involved in FEPC hearings held here September 15-18. Complaints examined then involved the alleged refusal of the company to consider Negro car cleaners for upgrading, because of race.

Complaints of Negro dining car waiters were received by FEPC too late for the public hearings, but were taken up with the company directly during the post-hearing negotiations on the earlier allegations.

The Brotherhood of Railway Carmen, accused in the car-cleaners' complaints of opposing upgrading of Negroes, has indicated to the company and FEPC that it offers no such objections, Mr. Ross said. 3-11-44

In the case of the waiters, FEPC has been informed that five Negroes have been employed as of January 1, 1944, as stewards with retroactive seniority varying from six months to a year. Three of these men were among those who filed complaints with the committee.

The settlements climaxed a period of negotiation between company officials and FEPC representative, following conclusion of the public hearings at which no defense was offered by the railroads or unions.

L. H. Hodkin, Eugene Parker, John Stoneham and Eueben Hadnot.

Announcement of the promotion was made Wednesday by Richard W. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Joint Council Dining Car Employes, AFL, and climaxed a fight for the upgrading of waiters dating back more than a year. 3-15-44

Smith said the fight on the Northwestern began early in 1843 when several Negro dining car waiters made request of the carrier for promotion to positions as dining car stewards. The railroad paid little or no attention to these requests at the time and the matter was taken up by the Employees' Organization, the Joint Council and its affiliate, Local 351, which represented dining car workers in the employ of the Northwestern Railroad.

The Joint Council combined the complaints of these workers with those of dining car workers who had made application for stewards' jobs on many other railroads to the FEPC, and after many months a hearing was held on discrimination in the railroad industry, in Washigton, D. C.

N. P. Has Negro Ispectors

8-16-44

The Northern Pacific R. R. several months ago upgraded Eugene Shepherd of Minneapolis and Maceo Finney to the status of dining car inspectors, the first in America. To date this newspaper has not been able to secure a statement from Local 516, Dining Car Employes Union, about the promotions — Minneapolis Tribune.

NORTHWESTERN RAILROAD

Northwest Enterprise — Seattle, Wash.

PROMOTES FIVE WAITERS TO DINING CAR STEWARDS

3-15-44

CHICAGO—The Chicago and Northwestern Railroad set a precedent this week, when, for the first time in history of the rail industry, it promoted five Negro waiters to the position of dining car steward, a post held heretofore exclusively by whites.

The men promoted, whose names were taken from the company's official seniority roster of stewards, and posted February 21 are as follows: O. J. McManu

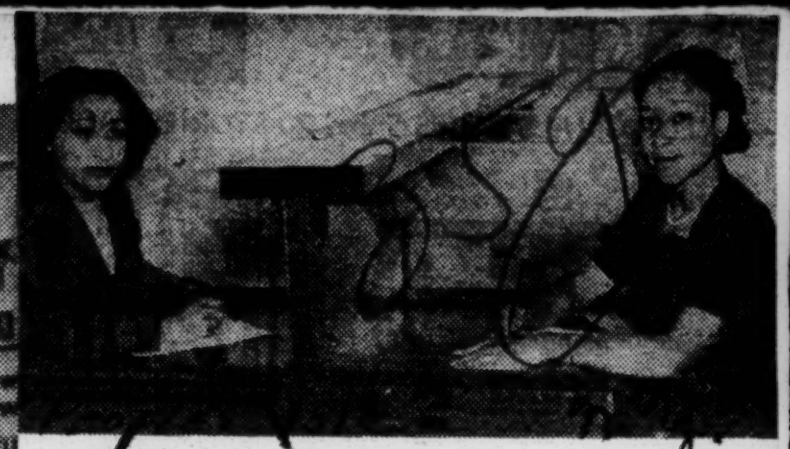
He's Mined 90,000 Tons

Primes Prude, shown with his wife in his home in Everson, West Va., has just set a record of rounding out sixty continuous years as a coal miner and plans to retire with his War Bonds when the third American war in which he has mined coal for the manufacture of weapons is over. This champion miner, who produces 12 to 15 tons of coal daily, is reported to have mined 90,000 tons himself during the 11,000 days he has been in the mines, since he started to work as a youth when Chester Arthur was President.

Weather Forecasters

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
3-11-44

Miss RUBY BELL, first colored girl to qualify as a U. S. Weather Bureau observer, has reported to Samuel Deitch (seated), head of the Atlantic City, N. J., weather station. She was trained at LaGuardia Field, New York. Born in Brooklyn on July 4, 1917, Miss Bell is a graduate of Hunter College. She is making her home with Mrs. Sara Spencer Washington.—Photo by Wm. (Chink) Robinson. 3-11-44



NEW TELEPHONE OPERATORS—On left Mrs. Helen C. Carter. On right Mrs. Muriel E. Conyers. These first applicants to the New York Telephone Company for jobs as switchboard operators, began their training Monday. Leaders called the new policy historic. The girls said: "All eyes are on us now. It is our responsibility to show what we can do."

Women Join City's Street Cleaning Force

Pilot-News-Elk, Va.
4-22-44

Two Negro women have been employed by the street cleaning division and have promised to report to work Monday morning, C. W. Armstrong, superintendent, reported yesterday in the first successful results of the city's campaign to obtain women helpers in a division where the manpower shortage was so acute the once-per-week garbage collection effective May 1 had to be adopted.

The division had 28 trucks and 93 men on duty yesterday, compared to 29 trucks and 91 men the day before, when those working set a new high record for recent weeks, Armstrong said. However, he said he had been promised two new drivers for Monday and hoped the situation would continue to improve. 4-22-44

City Manager Charles B. Borland, who announced the necessity for the curtailed collection schedule last week, has announced a minimum of 36 trucks and 125 men are needed to maintain the previous schedule of twice-weekly garbage collections will be made twice weekly in the residential areas and, during the summer, three times each week, if possible. Daily collections still is the program for the heart of the business district.

Borland and Director of Public Welfare H. G. Parker, under whose supervision the city prison farm is operated, previously have considered use of prison farm labor in the street cleaning division, he said, but the prison farm population is less than needed to keep the farm in operation to meet the needs of the inmates there and at the entire welfare center, which draws heavily on the farm for its food.

Colonel Borland said the city welcomed suggestions from citizens on helping to solve the problem. His remarks were inspired by a suggestion that prison farm labor be used in garbage collection work.

There are about 800 inmates of the welfare center, including an average of about 200 at the prison farm, which could gainfully use 400.

The farm is engaged in producing food for its prisoners and the inmates of the other units at the welfare center and the city jail. Its acreage has been greatly increased in recent years and enough prisoners to keep it in full operation at all times never have been available. 4-22-44

Colonel Borland and the City Council have promised the public as soon as labor is available, gar-

PEOPLE AND PLACES

By WALTER WHITE

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Peril Of Absenteeism

A COLUMNIST characterized as "do gooders" those who enjoin upon Negro workers in war-plants that they measure up to all the responsibilities of their jobs. I am not worried about being so labeled, the more I see of the way in which grasshopper-minded men and women are jeopardizing not only their own future but that of all Negroes in some of the plants.

7-22-44

Walter White

Here is the kind of situation I mean. In a Detroit plant manufacturing shell rings, there are two shifts in one department. The morning shift is white; the afternoon shift Negro. It requires 90 men to operate the machines. On the morning shift, 95 men are employed, the extra five being the allowance for absentees.

But the afternoon shift consists of 105 employes — 15 allowances for absenteeism of Negroes being required there.

At the Pontiac Motor Company at Pontiac, an even higher ratio is required to keep the plant moving. The same situation exists in an unfortunately high percentage of other war plants in the Middlewest.

Watch For X-Day 7-22-44

MEANWHILE X-Day approaches. Time reports that the Federal Shipbuilding Yards at Kearny, N. J., laid off 800 workers last week and plans to discharge another 700 soon. Various types of air craft, LST's and other war materials are being sharply curtailed. Success of the landing in France and the spectacular bombing of Japan by the new B-29's has created an optimism that the war may end by the fall of 1945.

Many people now are confident that the war in Europe will be over by the end of 1944. The Army and Navy already have a terrific backlog of war materials distributed all over the globe. If Hitler folds up there will not only be tremendous curtailment of war production, but the return to the United States demanding jobs of a tremendous number of soldiers who undoubtedly will be given preference over civilians.

the bad impression which some of the absentees have created. Leo Cherne, executive secretary of the Research Institute of America in his just published "The Rest of Your Life," predicts that the American scene will be disfigured by anti-Semitic, and anti-Negro riots fomented by demagogues.

Mr. Cherne declares, "It is folly to pretend that Hitler has not driven home the point to the American demagogue, the ambitious leader, the local politician, the street corner rabble rouser, the editors of self-styled semi-religious journals."

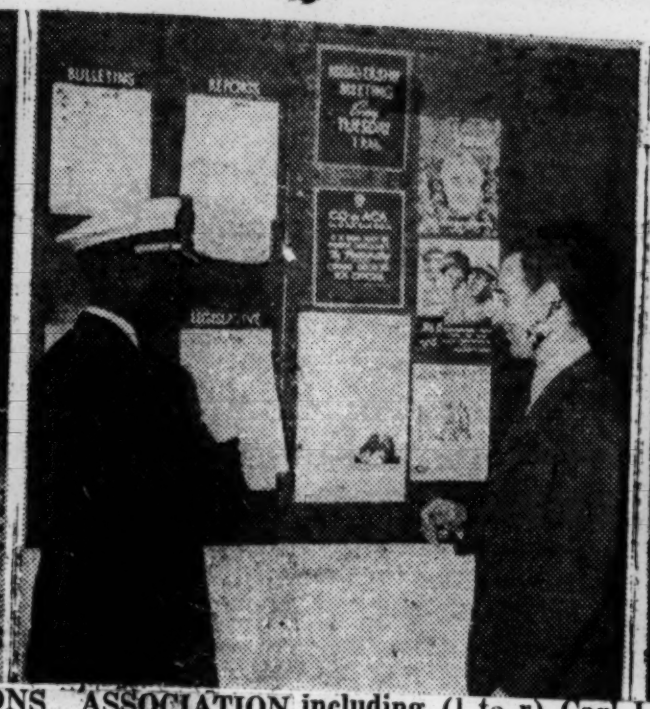
Regarding Negroes, he makes the even more ominous statement, "But the baiting of all other minorities will be over-shadowed when we confront the most vulnerable target for violence in America — the Negro. The frayed temper which emerges from war, the will to retreat, the need for escape, the inquisitor's comfort in finding a scapegoat will provide the fagots, but economic conflict will light the fire." 7-22-44

It may be that Mr. Cherne is over-pessimistic. But the present behavior of Negroes with jobs is going to be used as an excuse to penalize all Negroes unless we wake up in the all too short time left to us.

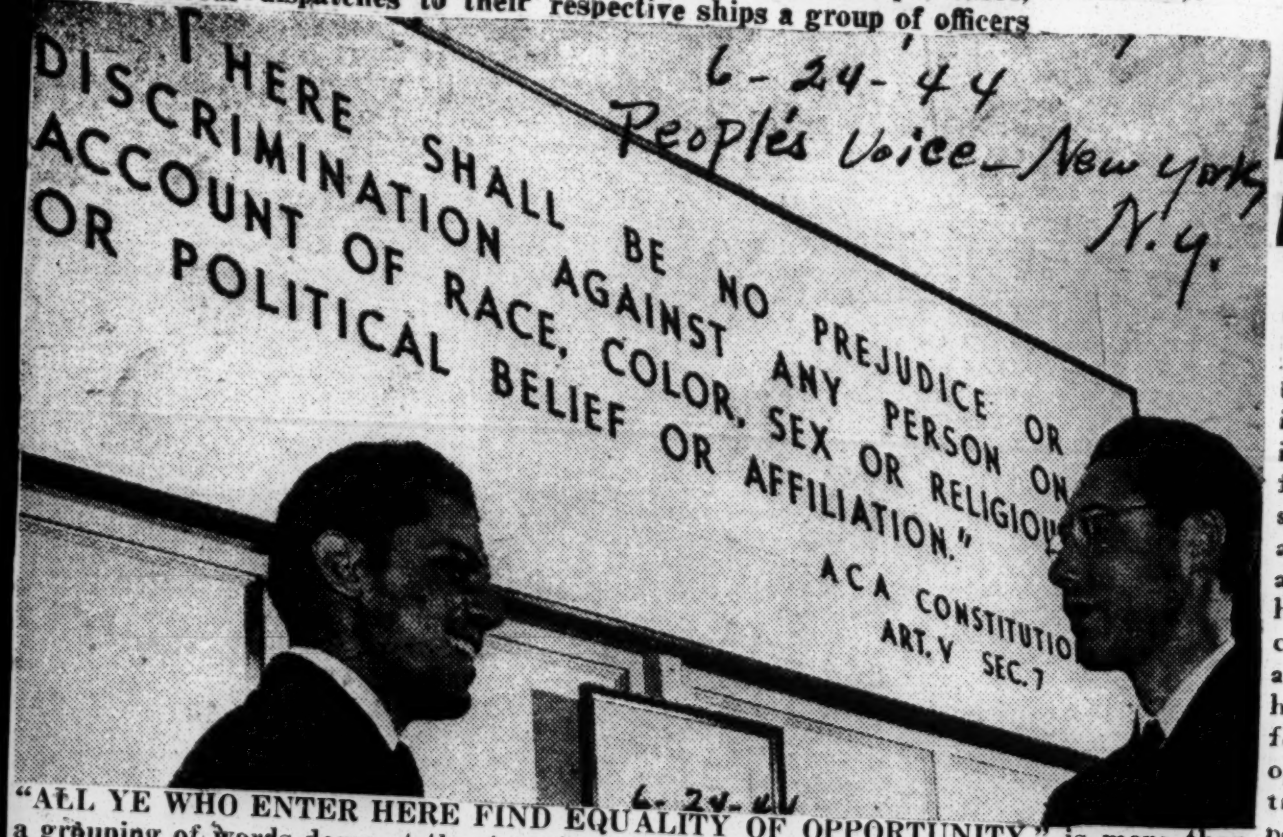
Very Little Time Left 7-22-44

IT MAY BE too late for Negro workers to recoup

35g-1944



DOWN AT THE AMERICAN COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION including (l to r) Carl Lundquist, Alfred Popwell, Cecil Blackman and Corby Paxton. This union, which supplies more men to the communications end of the Marine Service than any other organization, has seen to it that 37 Negro officers sail ships indiscriminately and feels that it has only scratched the service in its fight for democracy—where democracy is not limited to the usual lip service. Chief Organizer Murray Winocur watches Radio Operators Mandor Zag and Emmet May demonstrate a receiving and sending set. In pix two, Radio Officer Jerry Augustus and Chief Winocur scan the bulletin board which keeps the boys posted with the day-to-day world. In pix three, Chief Winocur dispatches to their respective ships a group of officers (PV fotos).



"ALL YE WHO ENTER HERE FIND EQUALITY OF OPPORTUNITY," is more than a grouping of words down at the American Communications Association where men and women, too, are welcome to participate in all of the activities of the organization. ACA is crying for more and more students to take full advantage of important courses offered not only to fill necessary jobs during wartime, but to carry on in the peacetime to follow. Not only is there no discrimination on account of race, but there is also no discrimination on account of sex. One woman is already a qualified radio officer. Another qualified for the training course just last week. They'll be sailing ships just like men in the days to come. ACA truly practices what it preaches—(Puhn foto).

A Practical Demonstration in Democracy

By LLEWELLYN RANSOM

THE American Communications Association ship is a ship in the service of the American people, and when a call comes in to the hiring hall of this union for one of its 3,700 members to serve the country's ships, an operator is sent and no questions are asked of his race, his color or his religion. And today ACA is calling on Negro youth to take advantage of the new econmic horizons it is helping to open up for the post-war period as well as opportunities to answer their country's call for much needed manpower.

At present ACA has 37 Negro radio operators, officers all, serving on ships in every theatre of war in every section of the world. They man not all-Negro ships, but they are found on all the companies' ships, eating, sleeping, living and dying with their white comrades like real Americans.

"What bothers us," said District Organizer Murray Winocur, in his office down 5 Beekman st, "is that there are only 37. It shows we have only begun to crack the surface."

Just outside Winocur's office facing the public hallway of the building, hangs a huge sign bearing a statement from ACA's constitution. It reads: "There shall be no prejudice or discrimination against any person on account of race, color, sex or religion, or political belief or affiliation."

Little did Winocur know how deeply beneath the surface of discrimination his union had already cut. By sending its Negro operators indiscriminately onto ships with white crews, ACA has been demonstrating the fallacy of the practice of jimcro in the Armed Forces. *Life* magazine recently proudly carried a picture spread on 13 US Navy officers, all Negroes, who were to be placed on an all-Negro ship. ACA's experience proves this practice is not only undemocratic but unwarranted.

Many of ACA's members are Southern white men, yet they offer no objection to sharing the ship's bunking quarters and mess rooms with their colored mates. And Winocur says there has been no Negroes had to wait until its present union had approached its strength until it got its chance to crack at jimcro. It and struggled along until about 1935 when it tied up some ships and got a few agreements. The SS Manhattan was its biggest ship about that time. Shortly after this the whole marine and waterfront industry became along unrecognized the National Maritime Union took an active stand against Jimcro.

On Winocur's desk lay a copy

of a telegram he had just sent out to 30 United States Senators June 12, on the postponement of the FEPC appropriation bill. He had telegraphed, "Any Senator who favors postponement or stays away Saturday, will be on our records as an enemy of democracy."

Although Winocur's local is but one of the two strictly marine locals, the 37 Negro radio officers have come entirely from his Atlantic coast branch. This local assigns more operators to the merchant marine than any other union. He thinks it is not enough merely to declare by word of mouth or constitution against jimcro, but believes there should be active effort to put this policy into action.

The biggest problem today seems to be that Negroes are not training for radio communication. For years there were few because there was no place for them. This is not true today and ACA is calling on Negroes as well as others to train. One Negro officer explained he had had a license in 1921 but no place to work. He finally got a job but it was with a black crew. Cecil Blackman said this black crew manned the SS General Gothals, the Garvey ship that was to take the American Negro back to Africa. He has been on the Liberty ship Booker T. Washington since she struck the waves.

I asked how one could become an operator. It was explained that one might apply for admission to Gallups Island training school at Gallups Island, Mass. Here one is trained in six months and receives $66 per month while training. At P.S. 20 a course is given as a part of the War Training Program under the supervision of the Board of Education. Besides this, some YMCAs give courses in radio. At Gallups Island there is no Jimcro barracks.

On board ship radio operators receive in pay from $275 to $300 per month plus food and board, and free insurance and hospitalization. The War Shipping Administration rates them as officers.

At ACA headquarters the expression goes: "Name your race, nationality and religion, and you will find it here." ACA's members include Chinese, Negro, Porto Ricans, Arabians, American Indians, Czechs, Irish, Italian and Jews. Negros are active in the political life and administration of the union.

Of the 37 Negro officers who are now in ACA, Chief Organizer Winocur had but praise. He said they have "kept them sailing" on all routes in all areas of the war—to every country and clime. They have kept them through sub, and bombing attacks. Not one has come up on charges. These men want to make good first because they want to win the war and because they want to open the way for the realization of greater democracy in America.

Winocur pointed out that there is a definite future in the maritime service for young ambitious Negroes even after the war. He said the post-war program of the CIO Maritime Committee is *"Full employment and full utilization of our ships."*

Four Negroes In Hawaii Transit

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

HONOLULU—(ANP)—The Hawaii Rapid Transit company has four Negroes in its employ. All of the Negroes are full-time wage earners, it was learned.

One of the Negroes of the large mixed HRT employment staff, Edmond Bishop, an expert, holds the position of chief instructor. His home was given as Oakland, Cal. He has been connected with the company seven years and is highly respected by all co-workers.

The Negro bus drivers are James Bailey, Atlanta; Thomas Jefferson of Chicago, and Joseph Pierre, New Orleans.

EDITORIAL

About The Trolley Car Protest

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.

Last Thursday the Negro women trolley operators in Brooklyn lodged a stern protest against the treatment they have been receiving from passengers. Spokesmen for the protesting group stated that profane language is constantly used and that on nine occasions women operators had been attacked by so-called irate passengers.

They also stated that at the time they were employed by the Board of Transportation, they were under the impression that they would work no later than 10 p. m., but at the time of this writing, some of the women operate as late as 3 a. m. It was said at Thursday's protest confab that they realize that some of the male operators have seniority ratings and are entitled to the better shifts, but the spokesman stated that the women should not be ordered to work later than 1 a. m. under any circumstances.

We definitely feel that something should be done to remedy this unfortunate predicament. Lambasting attitudes on the part of passengers should be wiped out and the proper respect for women who are doing a man's job should be substituted.

In order to attain this goal, we suggest that all women drivers dress in uniformity; that they do their utmost to render the very best of service, and that they, too, control themselves whenever a passenger bursts into one of these uproars. We salute these women for the superb job that they are doing and we will leave no stone unturned in the fight to see that they receive a fair break in the current controversy.

Negro Switchboard Operators At Last

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.

The New York Telephone Company this week became the first in any major city to hire Negro switchboard operators, a historic event in the economic life of the Negro people. The 26 girls who went into training Monday for permanent positions in what was once and still is elsewhere in the nation — a lilywhite field of employment, are sure to be the vanguard of many other competent, intelligent colored Americans capable of performing such tasks if given the chance.

The struggle to gain an avenue of employment at the switchboards of the big telephone companies has been one engaged in for years by race rights organizations. The injustices based on color and race alone which have seen a continual denial of recognition to Negro women in gaining these jobs has been a ranking sore in long drawn out negotiations by Negro groups to acquire these positions for our women.

There is a great future for qualified Negroes in public utilities. Such employment is of great importance since utilities offer a goal for many of our college trained young men and women who otherwise, might wind up in menial positions, disillusioned in spirit and bitter in heart against the system that gave them such a bad deal. With bus companies, the subway system, the street car company and others "discerning the signs of the times", there seems reason for some optimism that at last the Negro's economic future is brightening a bit.

Carl Whitmore, president of the New York Telephone Company, is to be congratulated for furthering a policy of fair play and observing the spirit of true democracy in this all important step taken by his firm. The example has now been set. It remains for other telephone companies in other cities to follow.

N.Y. Women Like Running Trolleys

Afro American—Baltimore, Md.

Operators Boast of Freedom and Fresh Air; Some Want to Keep Jobs After the War

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK—The surface transportation problem, which reached a critical phase last year with the drafting of trained trolley operators, is being solved through the employment of colored women.

These women are taught how to operate these cars through the congested traffic of this great metropolis, and all reports show that they are doing a fine job of it. Many like this type of work, since it gives them the freedom which few jobs have.

One woman operator told me: "The only thing I didn't like about it was the short time they applied for this job. I was out of work and I saw posters all over the subway stations asking for people to be trained as trolley operators. So I took the chance. "I was a little scared when I first got on the car, but I soon got used to it and now I wouldn't give it up for anything. I like the fresh air and the freedom of being my own boss. Before I knew it, I was on my own."

Boston Department Stores Hire Negro Saleswomen With Success

Interracial News Service

To the local chapter of the Urban league goes the credit for the recent employment of Negro women and girls in the downtown department stores as salespersons. According to reports those colored aides are doing their jobs well, displaying at all times marked efficiency and courtesy.

Prior to the induction of the girls into the present positions, which reached a climax last year with the drafting of trained trolley operators, stores, like those in other metropolitan cities, only gave employment to Negroes on such as elevator operators. So I took the chance.

Following the meets a leading department head, F. Frank Verenberg of the Gilchrist and Jordan Marsh conscientious efforts of such leaders as Seaton W. Manning, executive secretary and Edward L. Cooper, business leaders followed suit. Although the experiment was successful was that other white Boston Urban League, ready in the short time that colored girls and women have been hired in the city's Negro citizens several personnel directors have discussed the desirability of upgrading some of their Negroe aides.

Leaders Successful

It was through the untiring and Co., sent out a call for capable Negro salespersons and so successful was

35g-1944

California

Los Angeles Color Issue Quietly Ends

Thirteen Negroes Upgraded to Operator Without Incident

By PAULI MURRAY
Special Correspondent

LOS ANGELES, Sept. 2.—Thirteen Negroes—four women conductors, five motormen and conductors, and two bus drivers—are operating street cars and buses here with no incidents.

This is the report of L. A. Reeves, director of publicity for the Los Angeles Railway Corp., following a FEPC order against discrimination because of color or creed. The directive came out of a hearing on charges of race discrimination against the company on Aug. 9.

Survey Ordered

Following up the order the transit company made a survey of 400 Negro workers employed as coach cleaners and porters and selected the present 13 as operators. These were distributed throughout four of the company's six divisions and are reported to be doing well.

"We have something here the country can look at," Reeves said, "and it's working out much better than we expected.

D. D. McClurg, president of the Local Amalgamated Assn. Street Electric Railway Motor Coach Workers, who cooperated with the Government's policy, reports that the Union's executive council supported the FEPC order.

Others Co-operate

Civic organizations have cooperated in the innovation and helped to ease initial tension.

Once it is well established in Los Angeles the injection of Negro manpower will go far to relieve transportation problems in a community where 75 per cent of 500,000 war workers travel 52 miles daily to and from work.

Negro Motorman On Job

Special Correspondence

PHILADELPHIA, Sept. 2.—The first of seven Negroes, innocent catalysts for the recent transit-race strike, has completed a week as a trolley operator on a Phildelphia regular run.

The other six Negroes are still schooling.

The city's press has been singularly silent over the fact that a Negro had operated a street car for a week for the first time in Philadelphia's history without trouble.

The Federal Grand Jury has ended four weeks of deliberation, and is expected to be in session another two weeks delving into the infamous walkout.

50 Men and 15 Women Make Good as First Negro Street Car Operators in Los Angeles

LOS ANGELES.—(ANP)—Local colored citizens are highly gratified at the sight of men and women of the race operating as conductors and conductorettes on the cars of the Los Angeles Street Railway Co. To date there are 50 men and 15 women who have completed training under the supervision of veteran white trainmen and have been assigned regular runs.

It is a noticeable fact that contrary to the expectations of many citizens they are not being limited to the "U," "B", "V", "S", and other lines most heavily traveled by Negroes and traversing the heavily populated Negro districts, but are also on various other lines. In fact the majority of them were trained from car barns in the far westside and other sections of the city where few if any colored residents are located.

Although direct action by the FEPC during its special meeting and hearings held here last summer finally broke the racial bars that had been in existence every since the railway was established, the coast's most militant civic leader, the Rev. Clayton D. Russell, had spurred citizens and city officials into a demand for a showdown.

Just a year ago at a capacity mass meeting at his Independent Church of Christ, he called for 50 volunteers who would meet at the main office of the railway company and fill out applications for jobs. In a few minutes double the number signed with the committee and reported at the big Broadway building, all filling out applications.

The news of this peaceful "march" spread throughout the state and lined up hundreds of whites on the sides of their colored fellow Americans whose employment would alleviate the inadequate traffic conditions.

Over the radio and from his pulpit Rev. Russell now adjures the colored traveling public to be tolerant with inexperienced employes of all races, and cautions the colored workers in the newly opened jobs to do better than just well, so their efficiency will keep them in after the war.

Discrimination Seen In Monsanto Strike

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-25-44

MONSANTO, Ill.—Approximately 300 Negro members of the Chemical Workers' Local Union No. 20032 of the AFL began a work stoppage at the Monsanto Chemical company here last week following a series of discriminatory practices introduced by the company.

The workers protested an order issued by the company forbidding the truck helpers from riding in the cab of the truck with the white drivers.

At a meeting Tuesday afternoon between union officials, company managers, a representative from the Urban league and A. E. Johnson, U. S. Department of Labor conciliator, no decision was reached.

3-25-44

Company officials refused to meet with the Negro representatives and moved the conference from Plant B, the Monsanto plant, to the St. Louis plant. They claimed that the Negro workers had not followed union procedure in stating their grievances.

In New York there are 555 Negro motormen and bus drivers. Cleveland employs 190 Negro bus drivers and Chicago has 104 Negro motormen, 11 trainmen and 15 bus drivers. San Francisco has nine Negro motormen, one motorwoman and 27 women conductors.

Even in the South Negroes drive busses. In Winston-Salem, N. C., there are 40 of them.

35h-1944

Ask FBI Investigation

FLORIDA MAYOR HOLDS 18 WOMEN IN SLAVERY

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

3-11-44

NEW YORK—Charging a "reversion to slavery" in the arrest and forced labor of 18 Negro women strikers at Fort Lauderdale, Fla., because they refused to work on the farm of Mayor Dewey Hawkins at Oakland Park, Morris Milgram, national secretary of the Workers' Defense league, called upon Victor Rotnem, chief of the Civil Liberties section of the Department of Justice in Washington, to investigate and prosecute the responsible local officials.

On February 10, 18 women, workers at the large vegetable farm of Mayor Dewey Hawkins, of Oakland park, were held at the county jail in Fort Lauderdale, arrested at the mayor's request by chief deputy sheriff Robert H. Clark, who also sent to their homes 25 Negro children who refused to work. The mayor had told the sheriff, Walter Clark, that the women wouldn't work, saying that they had proposed a general strike among his hundred Negro farmhands. Before arresting the women on vagrancy charges, Clark endeavored to persuade them to return to their work.

3-11-44

Since their arrest, the 18 women have been released, and are back at work on the mayor's farm, the Workers' Defense league revealed.

Florida Law Called Aid To Peonage

Courier Journal
Louisville, Ky.

4-11-44

Court Denies Job Loan Basis For Jail Term

By the Associated Press.

Washington, April 10.—The Supreme Court today ruled unconstitutional a Florida law making it criminal for a person to obtain money by a fraudulent promise to perform labor.

In a 7-2 opinion delivered by Justice Jackson, the court declared the law violates the Thirteenth Amendment prohibiting involuntary servitude and the federal antipeonage statute.

Negro Fined $20.

The case involved Emanuel Pollock, of Brevard County, Florida, whom the court described as an illiterate Negro. Pollock pleaded guilty to a charge of obtaining $5 from J. V. D'Albora with a promise to work which he failed to carry out.

He was fined $20 for each dollar of the five, and in default of payment was sentenced to serve in jail at the rate of less than nine cents a day until the debt was discharged.

The court's opinion said the unquestionable aim of the Thirteenth Amendment and the antipeonage act "was not merely to end slavery but to maintain a system of completely free and voluntary labor." 4-11-44

State Can Punish Fraud.

The court said it had several times overruled laws similar to the Florida statute but had always established the state's right to punish fraud. Then the opinion added:

"Deceit is not put beyond the power of the state because the cheat is a laborer nor because the device for swindling is an agreement to labor. But when the state undertakes to deal with this specialized form of fraud, it must respect the constitutional and statutory command that it may not make failure to labor in discharge of a debt any part of a crime." 4-11-44

"It may not directly or indirectly command involuntary servitude, even if it was voluntarily contracted for."

351-1944

Mr. Babson's Advice

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 3-23-44

In his widely syndicated article appearing in the white press of the nation this week Mr. Roger T. Babson, celebrated business man and economic adviser, warned us against "foolish spending" and "shiftless work habits", which he says, are convincing our friends that we are "unworthy to have good wages."

Addressing his personal message to the several million of colored people, whose strong points and weak points he claims he knows, berates us for our obvious lack of seriousness in regards for the needs of the country "in this crucial hour", and as our friend, he says, "I beg you to get all the work you can get, work faithfully as you can and save, save, save!"

Mr. Babson's advice on working and saving against the day when unemployment and depression will threaten the land is sound advice. It is what this paper has and will continue to espouse. It is part of a nation-wide movement and persuasion on the part of the Negro press. Negro leadership, both secular and religious, continues to wage an unrelenting war against wild profligacy and indolence of which some of our people are guilty. And this in spite of the fact that some white people are just as wasteful and indolent.. But Negro leadership takes the position that Negroes cannot simply content themselves merely with the standards set by their white contemporaries. They must exceed them in almost every competitive field or else they become losers. But in spite of the glaring miscarriage of justice in our democratic processes in industry, education, in the professions, we insist that Negroes take advantage of each opportunity and make the best of it.

On the other hand, we seriously question the honesty of motive and sincerity of purpose back of Mr. Babson's writing. We cannot believe, for example, that Mr. Babson is unacquainted with the remarkable record we have made in home-ownership, in aggregate insurance in force, in business, in industry and in agriculture. The record has been so impressive that the late President Calvin Coolidge was forced to say in his annual message to Congress, "History does not anywhere record so much progress made by any people in a like short period of time." Mr. Babson is too intelligent to be ignorant of the amazing progress which the Negro people have and are making, particularly in support of the war effort. 3-23-44

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has assured the country that after a nation-wide survey, there was not a single "Eleanor Club" to be found anywhere in the country. Yet Mr. Babson continues to whisper up the out-worn and thoroughly discredited rumor. He says that we claim that we are mistreated in the South, although he disagrees with that contention. Living in the hot bed of race prejudice and injustice for nearly a quarter of a century, still Mr. Babson cannot see where we have been mistreated. By that admission. he goes even further than the better thinking whites of the south, in that he gives his sanction to discrimination and inequalities before the law.

The more we ponder Mr. Babson's message the more we are inclined to believe that it is a veiled attack on the Roosevelt administration for its professed interest in our minority problem. It is more than that. It stands in utter contradition, of all the proven testimony which the 300 odd war-plant employers are giving about the efficiency of Negro labor.

Labor Forum

Amsterdam News - New York, N.Y.

By M. MORAN WESTON

REASONABLE HOPE FOR ECONOMIC SECURITY for Negro workers — which means a steady job at union wages, with union protection, with provisions for sickness, unemployment, old age and death — rests on the possibility of keeping all American workers at work under these same conditions. 3-4-44

Mr. Weston

Some progress has been made in this direction, especially while the war production program was reaching its peak. The total Negro labor force in America is about 5½ million men and women. Of these approximately 30%, or 1½ million are employed in war industries. It is estimated that some one million Negro men and women are members of CIO, AFL and independent unions. The majority of Negro workers are not, however, anywhere near the goal of job security.

Cutbacks

The OWI (Office of War Information), the WMC (War Manpower Commission) and other government agencies are seeking to assure the public the layoffs due to cancellation of government war contracts (called cutbacks) have affected few of the millions of war workers. Whether many or few have been affected is a matter of degree. The important fact for Negro workers is that the manpower shortages, which paved the way for his employment in places and numbers unequalled before in industry, are about to become a thing of the past. Cancellation of contracts, closing of new plants, and the return of almost one million men from the armed forces is reducing the urgent need to employ anyone willing to work. 3-4-44

Layoff Policy

All responsible government agencies agree that a sharp drop in war production may be expected after July of this year. This means large scale layoffs, at the very time when our armed forces will be engaged in their largest military engagements. American industry has followed the dishonorable practice of hiring Negroes last and firing them first. Unions have fought long and hard to establish the principle of seniority. The civil service generally has been built around this principle of seniority.

It is clear that new layoff policies must be worked out and adopted, if Negroe workers are not to bear an unequal share of the burden of transition from full scale war production to civilian production. This becomes at this time an urgent question of public policy. We cannot wait until layoffs become widespread and then try to muddle through to some solution. Now is the time to face squarely the issue and make wise plans. It is a sure thing that Negro workers are not going to take the old methods of handling layoffs—where they get it in the neck—lying down.

1,300 Fired Because of Race Dispute, Complaint

Tribune — Washington, D.C. 7-22-44

Allegations that 1,300 workers at the Wright Aeronautical Corporation plant in Cincinnati were dismissed as an aftermath of a strike resulting from their refusal to accept the transfer of Negroes into their department, were contained in a court action filed last week.

Barney Peller, a former employee, sued for a mandatory injunction to enforce restoration of jobs to the 1,300.

The 4-day strike began on June 9, and at its height involved 15,000 employees, the company said.

The crane men gave the company three days' notice on June 28 when the colored worker was upgraded. When the plant closed on July 1 for vacation periods of one to two weeks for the 1550 employees, the white workers left, and so far, none of them have returned to work.

Mr. Peller's suit charged connivance between the company and W.J. Beckman, chairman of the Shop Committee of Local 647, United Automobile Workers, CIO, to "get rid" of employees opposing a closed shop at the plant. Mr. Beckman was named as a defendant with the company in the suit. 7-22-44

The suit charges that the dismissed employees were refused job releases and referred to the U.S. Employment Service. After questioning them whether or not they belonged to the CIO, the workers were then directed to take jobs at rates much less than they earned at Wright's, states the complaint.

Strikers Jobless After Walkout On Negro Upgrading

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 7-22-44

EAST ST. LOUIS — The Negro who was promoted to crane operator at the American Steel Foundries here, is at work in his new position, while the thirty white crane operators who quit their jobs in protest have been replaced by newly hired operators, a company spokesman announced last week.

35j-1944

PHILLY STRIKERS GO BACK TO JOBS; LEADERS JAILED

8-12-44

Negro Workers Assured FEP Order Will Be Obeyed By Army

By VENICE T. SPRAGGS
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

PHILADELPHIA—All was quiet on the Philadelphia front early Monday after a bitter "Axis week" in this one-time "City of Brotherly Love" that gave to Hitler a week's vital production of the nation's second largest arsenal just because eight Negroes went to work on the city's street cars.

The tragic impact of the walkout of 6,000 workers in an anti-Negro demonstration began to hit home Monday after the U. S. Army moved in with ironclad force and broke the back of the axis-inspired strike by arresting its four leaders.

Traffic was back at the 100 percent mark with only 13 out of 6,000 employes of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. failing to report. But the hangover was the realization that a week's vitally needed war supplies will not reach American soldiers in Normany and Brittany because strikers believed a leader who said: "Colored people have bedbugs and I don't want any bedbugs."

8-12-44

Face Year In Jail

He was James H. McMenamin, strike committee chairman, one of the four strike leaders who were not only jailed by the army but also fired from their jobs when they reported to work Monday morning. They face a year's imprisonment and stiff fines for violating the Smith-Connally anti-strike act.

McMenamin, a member of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen, said the white street car operators would not work with Negroes because:

"Due to low health conditions, their inferior education and their general economic condition, their standard of living is very far below the standard of operators. We have a condition here where every man swinging between runs gets a rest on a bench in the depot. This would require a colored man to lie beside a white man, or a white man to lie where a colored man had been. The colored people have bedbugs. These benches are wood, and wood breeds bedbugs, and I don't want any bedbugs."

8-17-44

Others arrested and facing Federal charges at a hearing August 14 are Frank P. Carney, William C. Dixey and Frank Thompson. All were released on $2,500 bail.

Their arrests were one of the all-out steps taken by Federal authorities to break the back of the strike after the leaders defied the government and refused to return to their jobs despite President Roosevelt's orders for Army seizure of the transit lines.

Army Decree

The Army showed little patience with the strikers and Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, who took over the PTC for the Army, decreed:

"Any man who isn't back on his job at the scheduled time (Monday morning) . . . zip! he will get no job for the duration — and the duration may be a long time."

The War Manpower Commission refused jobs for the duration and unemployment compensation to those who did not return. Employers were warned not to give them jobs under penalties of losing their war contracts and their employes released to other industries.

Selective service threatened to cancel all deferments to strikers and immediately induct them into the army.

8-12-44

Gasoline, shoe and food rations on the basis of essential employment was denied them.

Attorney General Francis Biddle ordered a grand jury investigation.

Negroes Assured Jobs

Of the eight Negro workers who caused the strike, only one reported to work Monday because there was no one available to give them training. However, the army gave the Fair Employment Practices Committee regional officials assurance that all would be put to work this week.

For a time shortly before the army's deadline, a new outbreak of race trouble was threatened.

The Army Public Relations office said that the report that a Southern soldier guarding a trolley segregated white and Negro passengers was not true. A spokesman said the report apparently was based on an ordinary "Move back in the car, please" command, addressed to all passengers.

Dismounting Negroes spread the word and an angry crowd of 400 Negroes massed to await the return of the trolley and the guard. But radio cars escorted the vehicle through without incident. Dr. John P. Turner, Negro leader told the crowd the soldier had been reassigned and the crowd dispersed.

14 Injured

During the week 14 persons were hospitalized, after racial clashes; war work slumped an estimated 15 per cent; merchant lost $5,000,000 in business; the strikers lost some $250,000 in wages; PTC lost $650,000 in revenue, and 1,500,000 daily PTC riders were forced to walk, hitchhike, use precious "gas," or travel crowded in industry - provided trucks.

8-12-44

Upwards of 5,000 troops, hurried here from camps in Pennsylvania and New Jersey, were on duty. While there was no indication when they would leave, it was expected that they would step out as soon as the Army is satisfied there will be no further interruption of transportation services for the tens of thousands of Philadelphia war workers.

During the entire five days of the strike, the 600 Negro workers who do manual and other work and the eight Negro trainees for operators' jobs reported to work every day.

Throughout the walkout, the Roosevelt administration on the spot because of the political implications of the move acted firmly to quell the strikers.

No Compromise

"The United States Government," said James P. McGranery, assistant to Attorney General Biddle, "will not compromise one iota in the regulations of the Fair Employment Practices Committee or the United States Employment Service requiring fair opportunities for employment by Negroes."

8-12-44

There has been some talk that the strike is political and was instigated behind the scenes by local Republican big-wigs in an effort to embarrass President Roosevelt, whose Fair Employment Practices Committee ordered employment of the eight Negro operators.

The strike climaxed a long, drawnout battle by the FEPC to enforce its orders to the Philadelphia Transportation Co. to wipe out discriminatory bars against employment of Negro workers in skilled jobs.

Frank P. Carney, president of the independent union, which lost an election on the transit line to the CIO recently, spoke at a mass meeting of strikers last night.

"We don't want Negroes and we won't work with Negroes," he shouted to the yelling, cheering crowd.

"There is no politics involved in this situation. This is a white man's job. Put the Negroes back where they belong — back on the roadway."

8-14-44

Officials of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. announced they were willing to bar Negroes from jobs as operators to settle the strike but officials of the War Manpower Commission and the Fair Employment Practices Committee declared they would not agree to "surrender the authority of the Federal Government to set rules governing the use of the Nation's manpower."

8-12-44

Ask Martial Law

A Philadelphia citizens committee asked Mayor Samuel to declare martial law to prevent resumption of Negro-white fights.

The committee said that if "the intolerance and reaction" is permitted to continue, it will be "the beginning of the spread of reaction against other minority people, particularly the Jews and Catholics."

Magistrate Hobson R. Reynolds, a Negro leader, pleaded for an end to brick-throwing hoodlumism as scores of persons arrested last night appeared before him for hearings.

"How terrible it is with fighting going on all over the world that we should be quarreling here at home," he said, finding eight defendants $10 each and holding others for court. "Violence is no solution to our problem," he added.

Eight Hired

The eight Negroes whose upgrading in employment by the Philadelphia Transit Co. started the strike are:

8-12-44

Lewis Sylvester Thomas, 43, employed by P. T. C. for almost 20 years. He was formerly a welding foreman until he applied for instruction in the job of running a trolley. He is one of the three men who was to have made a trial run on Tuesday morning.

Rufus G. Lancaster, 42, has been porter for eight years with P. T. C. until he passed the stiff examination required as a trolley motorman.

William J. Barber, 25, working for 3½ years as track man.

Emmett Wigglesworth, 36, porter.

Thomas Allen, 35, who has been working as maintenance man for 16 years.

James Stewart, 48, a former musician.

Fred Todd, 28, who has been studying the ministry for four years.

8-12-44

Josh Jones, 21, who has a medical discharge from the army after three years of service.

DEMOCRACY — A CONTRAST

Also New York, N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA, the cradle of Liberty, the City of Brotherly Love, was very much in the headlines last week and this with a strike of all its transit workers because of the upgrading of eight Negroes from menial jobs to that of motormen.

8-12-44

Statements and actions of the strikers in Philadelphia were in sharp contrast to the attitudes of transit workers here in New York City where, according to the latest estimate, there are some 4,500 Negroes employed in New York City's transportation system out of a total of some 37,000 workers.

Let's look at the picture in Philadelphia.

On December 27, 1943, the FEPC directed the Philadelphia Transportation Company to cease discrimination in the employment and promotion of Negroes.

On July 1, 1944, the War Manpower Commission announced its priority referral plan which provided that no referrals should be made to employers whose employment practices were racially discriminatory.

On July 8, 1944, the company announced that it would accept applications from Negroes for employment as operators of cars and buses and for promotion to operator positions upon the same terms of white workers. Previously, Negroes had been employed only in the company's shops. Following this announcment the company accepted applications from Negroes for operator positions and instituted a training program for them.

On July 31, 1944, eight Negroes were ready to take trial runs without passengers. These runs were scheduled to start at 4 a.m. on August 1. Starting at 4 a.m., on August 1 some of the white operators refused to take their cars from the barns. Later, others who had started out returned to the barns and before noon the entire transportation system had been shut down.

8-12-44

The shut down lasted until Thursday night, August 3, when President Roosevelt issued the following order:

"By virtue of the authority vested in me by the Constitution and laws of the United States, including the act of August 29, 1916, 39 Statute 645, the first war powers act, 1941, and Section 9 of the selective training and service act of 1940, as amended, as President of the United States and Commander-in-Chief

Pa. Courier

Something New

Pa.

White Workers Stage Walkout in Resentment Against Treatment Of Negro Employees

8-27-44

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Resentment against the treatment of eight Negro workers resulted in the walkout of 550 white employees of the Continental-Diamond Fibre company plant at Bridgeport, Pa., here last week.

Strike leaders, during an unsuccessful 20-hour meeting with company officials and U. S. Conciliator Peter Manno, said that the sole issue was "equal treatment of the eight Negroes." Frank Hoffman, vice-president of Local 58, United Textile Workers union, AFL, told the officials that when the workers were assured the Negroes in the rotary department were to be treated decently, work would be resumed in three minutes.

of the Army and Navy, I hereby authorize the Secretary of War to take possession and assume control of the Philadelphia Transportation Company, including all real and personal property and other assets, wherever situated, used or useful in connection with the operation of said systems and I authorize him to utilize such systems for such purposes connected with the war emergency as he may deem needful or desirable and to terminate the possession and control of such systems when he determines that such possession and control are no longer necessary for purposes connected with the war emergency."

Now let's look at what the strike leaders were saying: 8-12-44

James McMenamin, chairman of the strikers' general committee, in an interview with the press told why the Negro operators were resented. Said he: "Due to low health conditions, their inferior education and their general economic condition, their standard of living is very far below the standard of operators.

"We have a condition here where every man swinging between runs gets a rest on a bench in the depot. This would require a colored man to lie beside a white man, or a white man to lie where a colored man had been. The colored people have bedbugs. These benches are wood, and wood breeds bedbugs, and I don't want any bedbugs."

Frank Carney, former president of the old PRT employees union, declared: "We won't go back to work until they take the Negroes off."

Contrast that state of affairs in Philadelphia with the picture in New York City.

At least 4,500 Negroes are employed in the city's transportation system, and they got the first opportunity to compete on an equal basis for transit jobs in 1932 when the city opened the Independent subway and instituted the competitive examination system of employment. When the city took over the B.M.T. and the I.R.T. in 1940, additional job opportunities were available to Negroes, who now constitute 11.5 per cent of the city's total transit force of 32,000. 8-12-44

Recently, Negroes have also made big headway in obtaining better jobs in such private transportation companies as the Third Avenue Transit Corp., the New York City Omnibus Corp., and other companies. In the Third Avenue Transit Corp., Negroes were first hired in 1941 when an agreement was reached with the T. W. U. to hire a quota of 200 as bus operators. Since then that number has been exceeded, making any further quota agreements unnecessary. In the city-owned transit system, of the 3,681 conductors, 465 are Negroes. There are 167 street car conductors out of a total of 300 and 39 Negroes are subway motormen. 8-12-44

In not a single instance has there been any resentment, either by the general public or among the employees, against these Negroes in New York City's transit system. The public looks on them as merely employees; the white employees look on them as merely fellow workers. That is as it should be. Contrast that with what has happened in Philadelphia and you have a sharp contrast of democracy

Big Steel Has Employed Colored Workers 50 Years

AFRO-AMERICAN Baltimore, Md. 12-2-44

Largest Shipbuilding Corporation Boasts of Non-Discriminatory Employment Policies

12-2-44

By RICHARD DIER

NEW YORK — The Bethlehem Steel Corporation, considered the largest shipbuilder and the second largest steel producer in the world, has been employing colored help for the past fifty years in all skilled and unskilled positions.

This information was revealed to the AFRO this week in an exclusive interview with C. H. Hodges, employment manager, in the company's personnel offices at 102 Chambers Street.

"We've never discriminated against colored applicants," he explained, "and we never will. I don't know the exact figure on how many of them are working for us, but you can be sure that the number runs into thousands.

Opposed in Baltimore

"We had a heap of trouble several years ago in our Baltimore shipyard, where we hired colored mechanics for the first time.

"Many white employees objected to working with them, and a lot of them quit because of this. However, the company stood its ground and won out in the end. Now, colored and whites work side by side there in harmony, producing the ships for victory.

"Another thing you've got to consider," he continued, "is that most of our new colored employees are unskilled, and we take the time to train them for the most difficult and skilled operations. 12-2-44

Foremen and Supervisors

"This is paying dividends to Bethlehem in that they eventually become some of our best mechanics. In fact, we have quite a few colored foremen and supervisors.

"Even colored women who never had any experience with electricity beyond changing an electric bulb or plugging in a toaster are now being taught the essentials of marine electrical work."

The AFRO asked Mr. Hodges whether the coming of peace and the consequent return of war veterans to their former jobs at the company would affect the continued employment of colored people. 12-2-44

Few Changes Anticipated

"I don't think it will," he answered. "Remember, Bethlehem Steel has employed colored help for a half century, and these men and women have seniority rights too.

"It isn't like the other companies who have only been hiring them since the war, making their seniority only a question of a couple of years and leading to their displacement by returning veterans.

"We have 17 steel manufacturing plants and 10 shipyards which we expect to operate at full capacity after the war is over. Whenever there are jobs to be had, colored applicants will always stand the same chance as whites. That will always be our policy."

35j-1944

White Operators Walk Off Job When Eight Negro Trainees Hired

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va.

8-5-44

Half-Million Defense Workers Can't Reach Jobs As All Surface Carriers In Philadelphia Stop

(See Another Story, Page 4)

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—When Negro bus and trolly trainees were taken on by the Philadelphia Transportation Company Monday, in compliance with directives of the War Manpower Commission and the FEPC, all the white operators of surface buses and street cars in this city struck early Tuesday morning with the result that over one-half million vital war and defense workers in this area were stranded on the streets. In the initial strike, 1,900 trolley cars, 500 buses, and 50 trackless trolleys were tied up —with a total of 4,500 transportation employees involved. By the time workers get off the job Tuesday afternoon, it was believed possible that no transportation would be available anywhere in this teeming city of two million.

Described by on-the-scene observers as having the appearance of being a "wildcat" strike —without the sanction of union officials—the walkout began at 4 a. m., Tuesday morning. The surface operators, who were the first to quit, did not say that the union had called the strike but all gave the excuse that they were sick and could not work.

On Monday, the transportation company, which operates all of the public carriers in Philadelphia, hired some Negro workers and began training them in the practice yard at 3rd and Wyoming streets. On Tuesday morning, eight of these workers appeared on the streets as practice operators learning the operating techniques.

8-5-44

COMPLETE BREAKDOWN

Simultaneously with the appearance of these eight operators, every street car and bus operator walked off leaving an estimated 500,000 workers stranded. The others of Philadelphia's two million inhabitants used the elevated and subway lines along with special buses sent into town by the Navy Yard to get to their jobs.

However, by ten o'clock, the subway and elevated lines had suffered about a fifty per cent curtailment due to walkouts and it was expected that the entire transportation system would be at a standstill before night.

8-5-44

POLICE CALLED OUT

Ten thousand auxilary policemen were called out in Philadelphia early Tuesday morning. Taxicabs were still operating but were entirely inadequate for handling the tremendous load.

The Philadelphia Transportation Company declared, when queried early about the strike, that they could not explain a reason for the sudden and unheralded walkout. However, it was generally agreed by Philadelphia observers that the reason was perfectly obvious.

The head of the CIO transportation workers union, Michael Quill of New York, was known to be definitely in favor of Negro workers in the Philadelphia transit system. He had pledged his union to cooperate in the efforts of the transportation company to abide by the directives of the War Manpower Commission and the President Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

Since local 234, of the CIO union, had polled 60 per cent of the votes in the recent transit elections in Philadelphia, it is not believed that union policy dictated the strike.

COMPANY ANTI-NEGRO

It is recalled that the Philadelphia Transportation Company had previously signed a contract with its own company union--which was defeated in the election by the employees---- prohibiting the hiring of colored men and women as conductors, motormen, drivers, and cashiers and that the PTC had also refused to sign a contract with local 234 unless that clause was inserted in the contract.

However, the strike was so complete that it is a certainity that the employees of the defeated independent union and the likewise defeated AFL union must have had the cooperation of the employees who had voted for the victorious CIO union in the election.

POSTERS URGED STRIKE

It had been reported prevously that posters had appeared in various car barns in the city calling upon white workers to go on strike rather than help train colored men to operate trolleys.

Meanwhile, defense workers going to Sun Shipyards found it difficult to get to the trains which would carry them to the yards. Navy Yard workers, busy building the materials of war, were unable to get some relief from the hundreds of buses the Navy Yard sent into various sections of the city to pick up workers.

The strike came at the time of the public hearings in Los Angeles by the Fair Employment Practices Committee regarding the employment of Negro men and women on the transit lines of that city.

WAR EFFORT LOSES

An important government source in Philadelphia revealed that efforts are being made to determine whether this is an honest-to-goodness strike or just "a show of power." Union officials were said to be busy Tuesday morning making the rounds of car barns in an effort to persuade the operators to return to their jobs.

It is reported that an incalculable loss in weapons necessary for winning the war and preserving the lives of our fighting men will result from the delays caused by this transportation strike in a vital war area.

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va. 8-5-44

35j-1944

GRAPEVINE

By CHARLEY CHEROKEE
Defender – Chicago, Ill.

American Story

NEGRO WORKERS are already catching the devil, indicated Assistant WMC Chief Will Haber last Monday, because already employers are "reinstating peacetime employment standards." But Tuesday, Gen. Brehon Somervell of Army Service Forces indicated plenty of jobs for colored in the vital heavy war industries and that it may be necessary to import some more Mexicans to aid in the hot steel forge jobs.

8-12-44

Later Tuesday, looked like Haber was right when the Philadelphia transit workers all struck because eight Negroes were upgraded to motormen. By Wednesday and at this writing, however, issues were confused. Race hate was still the vocalized theme keeping strike going in spite of Army intervention, and keeping white and colored citizenry up to mob pitch. But politics entered as GOP and Dem jockeyed to see who gains or loses in the elections by the incident, and Axis encouragement was reported as war industry in this second largest war industrial center was stymied.

FDR being absent, the dusky nature of the problem threw it in lap of his white-adviser-on-black-affairs Jonathan Daniel, who promptly called in Ted Poston (OWI Black Cabineteer occupying most strategic spot of any Negro today). War Labor Board was ordered to sit, did, and requested FDR to send in Army, which he did Thursday eve.

Independent union which had called the strike over protest of CIO, recognized bargaining agent, rabble-roused with a lie that upgraded Negroes would have seniority over long-employed whites. When this wore thin, it fell back on more effective straight race-hate — "No niggers wanted, they have bedbugs."

As Army tightened reins, and Justice Dept. probed, FEPC persisted grimly with its St. Louis and Los Angeles hearings on similar matters, knowing it's a showdown — "This is it."

Darklings, aghast again at the horrible true nature of exposed innards of "Americanism," were nevertheless fascinated at power of black men. Just eight darklings without lifting a hand, keeping a million and a half war workers from work, curtailing vital radar and other war production, wasting countless man-hours, dollars and human lives in Normandy. And when darkling Charles White up and socked the Liberty Bell in Liberty Hall with a stone and shouted, "Liberty Bell, the bunk!" cops found him not so crazy as just God damned fed-up.

I WRITE AS I SEE

Tribune – Philadelphia, Pa.

BY ARTHUR HUFF FAUSET

"Glory, Glory Hallelujah,
His Soul Is Marching On!"

8-12-44

FIRST FRUITS

Now that the breathless days of the most ignominious strike in Philadelphia's history are over, Negroes not only can breathe freely, but actually we can be glad it all happened. Often we have observed the mountain laboring and bringing forth a mouse, but this time it was Reaction which labored and behold Democracy was born!

Aren't you proud of our great President! And of the mighty CIO! Suppose either had faltered. Every gain made in recent years would have been lost. The FEPC would be a dead letter; trade unionism among Negroes would pass away like a summer's breeze.

OUR PRESIDENT . . .

Consider our President. Not only is he terribly occupied, as no American ever has been, with the stresses and strains of this war, but from all indications he is far away from the center of activities, doing a special job in connection with furthering victory and the peace. Yet he found time to send directives regarding the Philadelphia strike. And such directives!

8-12-44

Didn't your heart flutter when you heard on Thursday night that the Army was taking over! And didn't you swell with pride such as you hardly ever before had known when on Saturday evening Major General Philip Hayes announced that the strikers either would go back to work under the conditions set up by the WMC directive, or they would suffer extreme penalties!

A few weeks ago, I wrote in this column that I had such faith in our President that I would stand by his party even if the Democratic platform carried not a single word on the Negro question. I also repudiated the Republican platform despite its promises to Negroes. See how this point of view was borne out by the strike. President Roosevelt, his assistant, James Byrnes (a South Carolinian), Secretary of War Stimson, the WMC, the FEPC, and the entire machinery of the national government stood up for the Negro one hundred percent. For all of these there was only one issue in this strike, namely, that the workers would have to return to work and abide by the President's Executive Order relating to the hiring of Negroes.

OUR MAYOR . . .

But what about our Republican city government? Did Mayor Samuel come out once with a statement in behalf of the rights of Negroes, to whom, I regret to confess, he owes his very election to office? Did he call upon workers to support the FEPC? Did he make any effort to coerce either the PTC management or the men, . . . and remember that the Mayor is ex-officio an important officer in PTC management.

8-12-44

Emphatically NO! He would not even see Negro leaders who wanted to help him in the crisis. He would not let them reach his ear or even his secretary's ear, by telephone. I know, because I was one of those who sought repeatedly to reach him, and was persistently rebuffed.

I am slightly in error. The Mayor did see two Negroes, Magistrate Hobson Reynolds and Adolphus Lewis. A strange thing happened after these gentlemen met with the Mayor. They emerged from his chambers and made a blistering attack on the CIO, claiming that CIO had entered into collusion with PTC management, and had betrayed the Negro people.

What, I wonder, prompted Mr. Reynolds to make such a dastardly and quite dangerous accusation, dangerous, that is, to his political future? Did Magistrate Reynolds hope in this manner to antagonize Negroes against President Roosevelt, since it is such common knowledge that the President and the CIO see eye to eye on many important issues? Was this an effort to get votes for Dewey out of the PTC crisis?

If this was the purpose, Mr. Reynolds must deeply regret now what he has done. Even before the PTC crisis, but certainly now, it is clear that any Negro who sees in the CIO an enemy of the Negro people either is very blind, very stupid, or has a sinister purpose in accusing the CIO of being false to the trust which Negroes place in it.

8-12-44

ONWARD TO COMPLETE VICTORY!

Out of this near-catastrophe, the President and the CIO emerge greater figures for democracy than ever before. This is true nationally as well as locally. Hitler received a real sock in the eye in Philadelphia during the past week.

The same cannot be said of Mayor Samuel. During the crisis he proved himself to be the same type of opportunistic, vacillating and pusillanimous chief magistrate that Thomas E. Dewey showed himself to be when, just before the Republican nominating convention, he would prejudice his nomination in the eyes of Southern delegates. Much talk, these Republicans, but oh, their performance

upgraded for the rod polishing jobs.

That even the three-day trial period proposal, put forward by UAW board member Melvin Bishop, played into the hands of anti-Negro elements in the shop was well shown since then. A number of union leaders pointed out that the skilled white workers among the anti-Negro elements are far from helpful to the upgraded Negro fellow-unionists, just point to the tools and tell them to go ahead. White workers, on the other hand, are given special assistance. In this respect the foremen are particularly discriminatory in their attention.

that they are harming their own case and the union.

The immediate provocation was Union officials also charged that the dismissal of nine Negroes after the company had not consulted the a day and a half trial on rod pol- local union affected on its three-lishing jobs. They were not even al-day rule.

lowed the three-day trial period Last Friday, the UAW's general e company's 6,000 me out on strike agreed upon with the union. The executive board at a Chicago meet- ompany discrim- agreement came as a result of ting, censured the metal polishers three-day anti-Negro stoppage last of Packard for refusing to permit week which halted production in Negro members a right to work in the entire plant, because worker their department. from an all-Negro department were

Negro Workers at Packard In Anti-Discrimination Strike

Special to the Daily Worker

DETROIT, Nov. 14.—Aircraft pro- ard Motor Car tened here today and a half trial on rod pol- local union affected on its three- e company's 6,000 lowed the three-day trial period Last Friday, the UAW's general me out on strike agreed upon with the union. The executive board at a Chicago meet- ompany discrim- agreement came as a result of ting, censured the metal polishers three-day anti-Negro stoppage last of Packard for refusing to permit week which halted production in Negro members a right to work in the entire plant, because worker their department. from an all-Negro department were

The Negro workers were immediately urged by President as to return to work on the ground

Philadelphia Strike Ended; Four Strike Leaders Arrested, Fired From Jobs; Army Still On The Job

Age — New York, N.Y.
8-12-44

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.— Complete public transportation service was resumed in Philadelphia Monday when all except 13 of the 6,000 transit strikers returned to their jobs under Army supervision, following a six-day stoppage of service which was estimated to have cost more than four million man-hours of labor in some of the nation's most important and vital war plants.

The rank and file employes of the Philadelphia Transportation Company went out on strike last Tuesday because eight Negroes were being trained for jobs as operators, as directed by the FEPC. Under the leadership of four men, the strikers completely disrupted Philadelphia's transit systems, caused hundreds of thousands of war workers to be idle and finally resulted in President Roosevelt ordering the Army to step in.

8-12-44

Orders were immediately issued by Major General Philip Hayes that all strikers would either return to their jobs or else they would not be able to obtain other jobs through the War Manpower Commission for the duration of the war and would be subject to other stringent penalties, including the immediate reclassification of all between the ages of 18 and 37 and their induction into the armed forces.

The four strike leaders, James H. McMenamin, Frank P. Carney, William C. Dixey and Frank Thompson were arrested on charges of violation of the Smith-Connally Act prohibiting strikes on governmen-run war industries, and released under $2,500 bail each for action of the Grand Jury this week. In addition, they were fired from their jobs when they reported for work Monday.

8-12-44

Two of the eight Negro trainees over whom the strike was called, also reported on Monday, but one was told to call back the next day and the other was directed to take it easy for a few days. Whether this meant that the Army would give full protection to their rights or would let things slide, was not indicated.

Henry A. Schweinhaut, special assistant to Attorney General Francis Biddle, is cooperating with U. S. Attorney Gerald A. Gleeson in the investigation of the strike and will present the evidence to the Federal Grand Jury on Wednesday.

In the meantime, fully armed soldiers continue to ride all PTC vehicles throughout the day and night. The troops, numbering around 5,000, it is said, will remain in the city on duty until all danger of violence has passed.

Explains How Philly Transit Officials Escaped Indictment

Call — Kansas City, Mo.
10-20-44

WASHINGTON.—(ANP)— The failure of the Philedelphia grand jury investigating the transit strike to indict officials of the Philadelphia Rapid Transportation company, according to an informed source here, was due to the inability of the grand jurrors to find any evidence that a law had been violated.

While newspapers and various public figures in Philadelphia had openly accused several of the officials of complicity in the strike, it was felt certain that they too would be among those indicted. According to information given to the ANP, the Federal Bureau of Investigation interviewed "at least 1,000 persons" in the short time which they had to act.

The only law which was violable, it was explained, was the Smith-Connally act, and none of the company officials violated that. "Everything they had done," this informant said, "had a logical reason—if you believed it."

Examples cited was the cutoff of the power after the strike started. Whereas had it been left on some of the workers might have taken their cars out, the company explained that they cut off the 600 volts to protect life. They said too that the reason why they locked the carbarn—with the cars in them—was in the hope that the men would disperse.

10-20-44

The view was held too that resentment had been built up against the Transport Workers union (CIO) because up to that time they had failed to get their contract signed and had not elected officers for the local. The workers, it was explained, did not know that there were legitimate excuses. "All they know was that they were paying more dues, had gotten no increases, and were being governed by international officers."

Then too the non-discrimination policy of the union was being "pedaled here and soft-pedaled there." Consequently, when the show-down came during the strike and the CIO was forced to admit its non-discrimination stand, many of the workers who had not heard much of this clause thought there was double-talk on the part of the officials.

10-20-44

Finally, the contract was signed on Aug. 9, and has brought increases amuonting to $3,000,000 to the workers. The Negro trainees are at work, and matters are progressing rather smoothly, it was said.

Furrowed eyebrows are still being cast upon the report of the grand jury for that portion which takes a crack at the CIO. "We are interested also to raise the question," says the report, "whether our country can safely afford to leave wide open the way for a great organizaiton to develop in the United States a strong central power and government, reaching its tentacles into every community of any size in the land and in its principles of action seemingly subsersive of the principles first declared and labor constituted in this city of Philadelphia as the basis of the life and government of our great republic."

10-20-44

Grand juries do not generally submit reports, it was said. They merely indict or refrain from indicting. In these cases where they do file a report, the document is generally written or framed by the prosecuting attorney. In this instance the grand jury wrote their own report and filed it without the aid of special assistant to the attorney general, Henry Schweinhaut.

35i-1944

THE PHILADELPHIA STRIKE

Holding Up War Contracts Not Chief Alarm

8-12-44

The Philadelphia Transit strike which tied up street cars and subways for six days and continued in defiance of the Smith-Connally Act, after the Army took over the lines to operate them, has elements of weakness and strength.

When this was written the Army had not enforced the act by prosecuting the leaders who encouraged the strike.

The Army was slow to arrest the leaders of the strike as the law requires.

On the other hand it refused the strikers' proposal to go back to work provided they are given a written guarantee that colored motormen and conductors will not be trained and hired.

Alleged cause of the strike was the refusal of 6,000 white CIO transport workers to accept an FEPC order promoting colored company employees from jobs as porters, welders and maintenance workers to trolley operators.

These men had been with the company from one to nineteen years. They passed the motormen tests. Colored men now drive the company's trolleys used to do repair work. That they may drive a trolley car carrying rails but must be barred from passenger cars is outrageous.

In Richmond or Baltimore yes: but in Philadelphia a City of Brotherly Love(?) and a cradle of liberty(? no one thought it possible.

The South, we have said, is poor and ignorant. But Philadelphia with its mixed schools, its colored police and colored firemen, magistrates and judges, its thousands of colored city employees and its reputation for wealth and culture, Philadelphia, we thought, would never permit a public display of inexcusable and obstinate race prejudice.

Pennsylvania has long been a symbol of freedom. It was a center of the abolition movement. The underground railroad had its stations in every village. It has a model civil rights law, and in the main it has kept the places of public accommodation open to all citizens, colored and white.

But the Transit strike smears the Quaker City with the tar brush of Southern intolerance, and the spectacle is damming.

The strike has been denounced by the leaders of the Philadelphia Transit Workers' CIO Union, who blame the walkout on a group of company unionists it defeated in a recent election.

Union Couldn't Control Members

But the fact remains that the CIO is unable to control its members and therefore does not represent them. The strikers booed and howled down CIO leaders with the same abandon they used in refusing to listen to US Army officers.

Couple this with a meek mayor and inept traction company management, which permitted strikers' meetings in car barns while the press recorded the proceedings, the names of their strike leaders and their inflammatory speeches, and you have the setting for a race riot that menaced.

We have said nothing of the fact that the six-day walk-out was staged without warning, that it tied up production of Army radar, heavy artillery, heavy ammunition, military trucks, incendiary bombs, flame-throwers, rifles, grenades, parts for Flying Fortress for the new B-29 Super Fortresses, the Liberators and for cargo C-46 planes.

A hundred plants making bearings, fuses, cotton duck and the giant Philadelphia Navy yard itself were compelled to cut production from 30 to 70 per cent.

This at the height of our all-out effort in France and the Pacific islands to defeat our enemies is tragic.

But it is not the sole consideration. We are equally concerned with the fact that the problem of integrating a tenth of our citizens into the life of the nation. North and South, is as important as any we face now or after the war.

It can be solved reasonably, justly and without delay but we have cause to be alarmed that our politicians and Statesmen taboo it for major discussion until it breaks out in riot and violence.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 8-12-44

A SECOND OUTLOOK

BY J. SAUNDERS REDDING

Philadelphia Strike

The recent difficulty involving the employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Company in a strike of great consequences is not merely "labor" trouble. To call it so is dangerous over-simplification.

On the surface, the Philadelphia business has the look of a dozen other incidents, notably the Packard strike of two years ago, when several hundred employees walked out in protest of the upgrading of a handful of colored workers. The Packard strike was a "wildcat" strike, too.

It was attributed to a "spontaneous outburst" of racial prejudice which was in turn attributed to an "element of Southern whites" who had gone North to Ohio to work in war industry.

The Packard strike was settled when President

Thomas of the United Automobile Workers (CIO) threatened the strikers with loss of union membership.

But the strike of employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Company is no so simple. First of all, there was nothing "spontaneous" about it. Forty-five hundred people, scattered on jobs all over a city the size of Philadelphia, do not all decide, each for himself, that they will leave their jobs at one and the same time.

The strike was carefully planned. It seems not not to have been planned by union officials. Mike Quill, national head of CIO's Transportation Workers' Union, is rated a "pretty square" fellow on the race problem. It seems fairly certain that his national office is not with the strikers.

Union officials have been cased for weeks on the Political Action Committee free of the onous that might engulf it through any untoward action, of course, embracing such things as hard-to-justify strikes, mass labor transfers, and the like.

Co. Officials Aides

Union officials. therefore, had nothing to gain either by the strike itself or by the unfortunate disorders that followed. Or if they did, then the strike is evidence of a serious cleavage in the upper ranks of CIO, or of a drastic change in basic policy. Neither of these is a likelihood.

The Philadelphia Transportation Company seems to be with the strikers. This is nothing to marvel at. In the many months since the creation of FEPC officials of some Southern companies have fomented aided, and abetted strikes among their employees.

Early in the summer there was such a case in the cotton mills of Danville, Va. Earlier than that, a national organizer for CIO told me that last year, the officials of the Reynolds Tobacco Company in Winston-Salem, N.C., urged the members of the company's union "to do something drastic" because it looked as if CIO was about to displace the company's union as the employees bargaining authority.

"We cannot protect you white men in your jobs if this happens," a company official is reported to have told a meeting of white employees.

Politics Involved

In the South, such sinister work has had as its purpose the discrediting of Union activity and the rendering of FEPC impotent. And something of this seems to be at the bottom of the Philadelphia story--something of this with a new twist.

A discrediting union activity, yes--but for the purpose (and perhaps only for the purpose) of discrediting, through the union, the PAC and the Democratic party, to which PAC is throwing its weight, in Republican Pennsylvania.

To render more impotent the FEPC, yes, but to the larger political end that it might be pointed out that the Democratic Administration's FEPC never was any good. For certainly this last is to be a prime argument in the Republican campaign against the Democrats among colored voters.

And certainly, too, the Pennsylvania Republicans will add that the Democrats, who made no mention of FEPC in their platform, mean to scrap the FEPC. The Pennsylvania Republicans are old hands at vote-getting.

They will need every colored vote they can get to carry the State for Dewey. It looks as though the Transportation strike is the opening gun in their campaign.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. 8-12-44

35j-1944

PTC STRIKE SIDELIGHTS

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
(By Associated Negro Press)
8-12-44

PHILADELPHIA — While some workers of the Philadelphia Transportation Company thought the war not important enough to continue running trolleys, trains and busses, during the days of the strike, the 600 Negro employees of PTC reported for work everyday—and most of them worked every day of the strike, especially in the maintenance department.

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One of the colorful pictures Sunday as transportation crept back into operation took place at Fifteenth and Market streets. A gang of some twenty white and colored PTC trackmen were digging, handling power drills, and doing other jobs towards laying a new section of track. Every once in a while, a trolley car would pass, with white and Negro passengers and with steel helmeted and armed soldiers. There was no friction among the white and colored PTC men and there has not been for many years in this maintenance division.

8-12-44

When some 2,000 soldiers rolled in to Philadelphia from Fort Dix, the scores of trucks and busses carrying them were driven by Negro soldiers—members of a transport unit. Some of these were bivouaced in Fairmont Park.

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LONG DAYS AND NIGHTS

During the crucial days of the strike—Tuesday through Friday—G. James Fleming, regional director of FEPC and members of his staff put in an average of sixteen hours each day, working day and night and being on twenty-four hour call. Fleming, accompanied by Joseph Sharfsin, FEPC special counsel sat, coatless, in the first conference called by Federal officials a few hours after every PTC vehicle had been stopped. It was the conference at which the company proposed "suspending" indefinitely all non-discriminatory employment and putting Negro operator-trainees back to their "Negro jobs." From this point on the FEPC office was a beehive of activity — with endless long-distance calls from and to Washington and with conference after conference. Newspapermen and the public also called on the FEPC for information and background. In fact, the FEPC office became the one spot where the public believed it could get guidance and honest "steers."

8-12-44

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On Wednesday Fleming called on the public not to endulge in rioting and not to listen to rumors "because in times like these, most rumors just are not true."

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The FEPC staff which carried the the strike burdens included Milo Manly, Miss Mildred Greenblatt, Sam Risk and Willard T. Grinnage, examiners in the regional office; also Misses Et[illegible] Berg and Grayce V. Brown, and Mrs. Helen P. Gorgas of the clerical staff. From Washington came Will Maslow, director of field operations; Clarence C. Mitchell, associate director, and St. Clair Bourne, information specialist.

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SEVERAL "OBSERVERS"

So important is the city-wide strike that official observers and social scientists came from several directions. Both Detroit and Boston sent high-ranking police officers in the persons of Police Inspector Edwin Morgan and director of the Police Training School, Bernard Preo, from the Motor City and Supt. Edward Fallon and Deputy Superintendent Thomas S. J. Cavanagh from the Massachusetts city.

8-12-44

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sent its assistant executive secretary, Roy Wilkins, both to observe and to give a leadership hand to its local branch, of which Attorney Theodore O. Spaulding is president . . . The Commission on Economic Problems of the American Jewish Congress sent its national executive director to do a similar job for its local office, of which Mrs. Madeline Bachrach is head . . . The Rev. Horace White, member of the Detroit Housing Commission, was another observer, as were also Edgar G. Brown, who has several liasion connections; Louis Carter and Nicholas Falconi, staff members of the New York State Anti-Discrimination Committee and Julius A. Thomas and Reginald Johnson of the National Urban League.

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One of the healthy signs of the strike has been the warm interracial cooperation. Both the FEPC and the NAACP offices report that literally hundreds of people telephoned or called in person to ask the simple question: "What can I do to help?" . . . Hundreds wrote letters and sent telegrams to the President, the Mayor and the Newspapers condemning the strike and backing the fair employment policy of the Government . . . White autoists picked up Negro pedestrians and vice versa . . . Unanimously the daily newspapers in the area took a constructive view of the strike and backed Federal intervention . . . In addition to FEPC the other Federal agencies concerned also stood fast for continuance of the non-discriminatory employment and for no "suspension." Only the regional head of WPB, Orville Bullitt' former investment banker, reneged—and his attempts to sabotage fair employment were repudiated by the central office of WPB.

8-12-44

One of the disappointments of the past trolley-less week was the great silence emanating from City Hall and Governor's office. The Governor closed liquor stores and mobilized the State Guard and the Mayor closed taverns and appealed against disorder, and deplored the strike of sabotage—but neither of them spoke as to the principle of American citizens being allowed to work, according to their capacity regardless of their race, color or religion, Mayor Bernard Samuel, as some one said, was more interested in a store window broken or a lump of coal stolen than in whether Negroes get a square break in jobs."

• • •

The ringleaders of the PTC strike are interested in more than whether Negroes are upgraded or not. They are interested in the 'plums' that come from being union officers. Frank P. Carney, who did the rabble-rousing that strengthened the walkout was the president-business agent of the company-slanted, independent PRT Employees Union. As such he received some $6,000 per year, it is reported, plus other 'boodle.' With the CIO in, he can no longer collect his six-grand, since his union now has only some 500 office workers, instead of the 10,000 members it had before. If he can embarrass the CIO—if he can install anti-CIO officers in the election which is only weeks off, then, at least, by next year, he may be able to return to his highly paid job.

8-12-44

General Philip Hayes, commanding officer of the Third Service Command and War Department representative, leaned backward not to have to summon U. S. combat troops from more important work to strike duty. He pleaded, he explained, for two days. He thought patriotism would do it. But the strikers would not return to work unless the Government signed an agreement that Negroes would never be employed as trolley and bus operators. But on Saturday, General Hayes cracked down with his "Back to Work, Or" ultimatum. It said—Work or be fired; if fired, those of draft age to be immediately drafted; others not to get any statements of availability from WMC or unemploy[illegible]

Striking Negro Truck Drivers Tieup Industry

Union Officials Are Target Of Race Workers

Memphis World
Tenn.
11-17-44

NEW ORLEANS — (ANP) — Three big firms have been pinched by striking Negro truck drivers and leaders who walked out last week in protest against officials of their Teamsters union. The firms are J. J. Clarke Company, Inc., J. Watts Kearney and Sons, and Jahneke Service, Inc.

Several hundred drivers walked out of the Delta Shipyards last week because three of their members were fired for refusing to pay $100.00 increase in union dues. The union men claim that the increase was put into effect against their wishes and was out of proportion to the wages they receive.

Other drivers and leaders not connected with the shipyards said they were in sympathy with the Delta workers and joined the strike with them. They refused to transport any building materials.

Object of much of the union trouble is Manny Moore, white, recently appointed president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, AFL local 270. Moore, who was recently discharged from the navy, is charged with ousting Negro officials of the union. Two seperate peace bonds, signed by Carroll Bolling and J. D. Wilson, have been issued against Moore, who is characterized as dictatorial and ruthless.

STRENGTH IN UNION

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
11-11-44

Any lingering convictions still remaining that the Philadelphia Transit strike was a hate strike of loyal union workers against the upgrading of Negroes was completely refuted in an election recently held by that body. Although the embers of that disgraceful episode are scarcely cold, these transit workers have elevated a Negro to the vice presidency of their union and in addition have elected four other Negroes to the executive board.

11-11-44

To persons who observed the hate displayed by the strikers, it seems incredible that these same workers would place Negroes in union offices of great responsibility, when they objected to their even operating the cars.

What brought this change of attitude? Are not these electors the same strikers? Yes, they are the same men. This new display of democracy on their part reaffirms the fact that the whole strike was a phony. It seems clear that the Negro trainees were used as a scapegoat by the transit company in an attempt to accomplish two purposes. The first was to discredit the FEPC and the second to break the United Transit Workers, CIO.

The victory of the U.T.W. in obtaining bargaining rights in a hotly contested election had created in the old defeated Brotherhood a large disgruntled minority. It was from this minority that the strike as well as the hate program had its source. Evidence also shows that the strikers had the encouragement and help of the transit company. The company cooperated with instead of resisting the plan of the strikers to paralyze the system.

The Army's firm stand in breaking the strike is now matched by the fearless action of the union. It is to the everlasting glory of the U.T.W. that they remained true to the CIO nondiscrimination policy, not only in condemning the strike, but in placing Negroes as officers in the short span of time since the disgraceful strike.

Four vice presidents were elected, one is a Protestant, one a Catholic, one a Negro, and one a Jew. This is real democracy in action.

11-11-44

The fearless fight with the resulting success of the Philadelphia U.T.W. should encourage other unions in a steadfast fight for more democracy. It is self-defeating for unions to consider themselves as exclusive organizations. Unions must be the guardians of all working men, giving each the same protection regardless of religion or race. In a real democratic union there is strength.

Lessons from Philadelphia
The City of Brotherly Love

Chicago Defender
9-9-44

BY GEORGE EDMUND HAYNES

The effort to remove discrimination against Negroes in employment on the street car, elevated and bus lines of Philadelphia precipitated a strike of its 6,000 white employes. Four white workmen, whose public expressions showed bitter race prejudice and stupid judgment about their own best interests, headed by a committee of thirty-five, acted as leaders and spokesmen for the strikers. They persisted for four days in blocking the transportation services for over 900,000 war workers and a city of 2,000,000 people. Manufacture of strategic war supplies for our fighting men and women overseas was seriously curtailed in the second largest war production center of the United States. The U. S. Army and the Department of Justice had to use strong-arm methods to break the strike and to get the men back to work by threatening them with loss of their jobs and by arresting four of the leaders.

The lessons from this terrible experience should help at many other points. First, race prejudice can be a smoke screen for accomplishing other ends. There are indications and were reported as showing some that some officials of the Philadelphia Transportation company, which formerly had a company union, did not want the CIO and the persuasive methods have been exhausted the U. S. government can

...e force to protect the rights of its citizens and to preserve law and order.

The use of force, however, and the settlement of the strike by that means did not settle the racial tensions and possible conflict. Many tensions in race relations as well as those between organized labor and management remain. Public opinion has been inflamed in a most dangerous way. The work of the Fair Employment Practice committe, of the Army, the War Manpower commission and the Federal Grand Jury will not be able to solve these basic attitudes and patterns of behavior. They exist to a greater and less degre in Philadelphia and every other city of the United States even where the effects are not so conspicuous as in the city of Brotherly Love.

Further, during the five days of the strike the rumors, gossip and lies that were spread among the idle workers probably inflamed many existing prejudices and planted others in heads where they did not before exist. Newspaper reports say that stories were passed around that Negroes wanted to rape white women, Negroes were breeders of vermin, that Negros were taking over the city, etc. All these rumors were without foundation in fact. Such rumors have been used repeatedly at other times and places to incite prejudiced minds to action by the fomentors of racial conflict.

Besides the cut in war supplies by loss of man hours, this episode lost moral and spiritual values. The effect on Negro morale, both those who are in the armed forces and those at home now and after the war and the effect upon the colored peoples in China, the Philippines, India and Africa, should lead us to see that this play upon prejudice is too costly for American democracy. Those who cause such disturbancees are digging deep and dangerous pits into which our democracy may fall.

While in past decades discrimination would be winked at or tolerated by responsible officials, in this strike not only officials of the government but the large majority of the people of a large American city were ready and willing to come to grips with this most serious threat to our American way of life.

Furthermore, this experience shows that white workers in large measure as well as management are not yet converted to the idea that Negroes should have equal opportunities with whites for whatever jobs are available. These white workers were partly motivated also by fear of what will happen to them when the war is over and there is shortage of jobs. This fear is a part of the feeling that enabled their leaders to swing many of the rank and file against their own larger interests as workers.

Since these strikers did not respond to the appeal of fair play nor to the patriotic appeal about the welfare of their country in a critical stage of this great war, it was necessary for government to use coercion applied directly and effectively. It indicated too that the municipal police, state militia and federal military authorities acting together can with wisdom and firmness prevent, even under great provocation, serious racial conflicts.

Say Co. Promoting Racial Strife in Pullman Strike

AFRO-American Balt, Md.
12-23-44

CHICAGO (ANP)—Blame for the seven-day strike at the Pullman Standard Car Manufacturing Company was tossed back into the lap of company officials last week by workers and union leaders as an attempt to smash local 2928, CIO, United Steel Workers Union.

As the so-called race hate strike, involving 900 white workers, came to an end, sweeping charges of attempts to foment racial strife as well as of union busting were leveled at Pullman officials during an investigation of the walkout by high public officials and union leaders.

Workers and union heads charged that the company aimed to divide and conquer the union by employing the reverse tactics of upgrading a colored worker, in this case Bennie Morgan, over a white worker whose seniority exceeded that of Morgan.

Charges Against Morgan

First, the company is charged with deliberately firng the white worker to make room for the upgrading of the colored worker, although there exists still an unfilled supervisory post that should have been filled by Morgan, while the post Morgan holds should have been filled by the white worker.

Secondly, workers claim that in view of the deliberate violation of seniority rules by the company, the strike was more of a protest than a race hate strike since whites do not oppose Morgan being upgraded, but merely demand that the fired white worker be returned to his job.

Settlement of the strike leaves Morgan intrenched in his position as group leader of white and colored workers, but an effort is being made by the union to adjust the matter of the fired white worker.

Other Editor Write

AFC - New York, N.Y.
7-19-44

THE PHILADELPHIA STRIKE

If ever there was an unjustified and unjustifiable strike, the one which the Army has broken up at Philadelphia was just that. It is a reproach to the country and a shame to the strikers that the Army had to be called in for such a job. Once it went in, however, it acted with the utmost forcefulness. A decree posted by Major General Hayes ordering the men back to work, ended with the succinct statement that those not on the job at the deadline would be separated from the Transportation Company's pay roll; that those between the ages of 18 and 38 would find their selective service deferments automatically cancelled; that the War Manpower Commission would not issue availability certificates for other jobs. The summary arrest of several leaders quickly showed that the Army meant business. Back of this military power, however, was the resentment of the whole country. The avowed purpose of this demonstration was to prevent the employment of Negroes as operators of street cars. For that indefensible cause, one of the greatest of American centers of industry and shipping was to be tied up in a time of war. This was an affront not only to Negroes, but to all fair-minded people of all races and colors. Its prompt suppression receives the nation's applause.

Strike Protests Beating Of Woman

Defender - Chicago, Ill.
8-12-44

DUBLIN, Ga.—(ANP)—A group of unorganized Negro workers walked out on protest strike here Wednesday completely tying up production at the Georgia Veneer company because their foreman, a white man, had allegedly beaten one of their co-workers, a Negro woman, across the forehead and back.

The victim was listed as Miss Elizabeth Sims and the foreman involved was said to be Carlos Gay.

The attack is reported to have grown out of a controversy over a jack between Miss Sims and Willie Hope, another employee. Hope is said to have first struck the woman. Later the woman is said to have borrowed a knife, the act being reported to the foreman. Upon asking about the knife, the foreman is reported to have cursed and used an epithet, forcing the woman to stand with her hands in the air, while he searched her clothing.

The beating was administered, witnesses said, to make her tell him where the knife was. The workers requested that the company fire the white foreman and the company refused. It was then that the workers walked out on strike. An appeal to the Regional War Labor board at Atlanta has been made by the company, but the foreman has not yet been relieved of his job.

Job Foreman Beats Woman; Workers Quit

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.
8-26-44

Workers Leave War Plant Following Manhandling, Foreman Remains on Job

DUBLIN, Ga., (ANP).—A group of unorganized Negro workers walked out on protest strike here Wednesday completely tying up production at the Georgia Veneer Company because their foreman, a white man, had allegedly beaten one of their co-workers, a Negro woman, across the forehead and back.

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The beating was administered, witnesses said, to make her tell him where the knife was. The workers requested that the company discharge the white foreman and the company refused. It was then that the workers walked out on strike. An appeal to the Regional War Labor Board at Atlanta has been made by the company, but the foreman has not yet been relieved of his job.

THAT COOS BAY LETTER

A short time ago the Associated Press released a sensational letter from the crew of the USS Coos Bay, a seaplane tender, that caused an uproar among labor circles. The letter contained $412 from their salaries to "help pay the wage increase money-hungry strikers are demanding" at the Wright Aircraft plant. 7-29-44

This letter was printed throughout the country, and as was to be expected in wartime, the result was an angry public outburst of feeling against organized labor. The men in the navy are fighting and dying. The money-hungry workers at home are striking. What a situation, people thought.

The irony is that the situation was even more critical than the crewmen of the USS Coos Bay realized. The strikers were not striking for more money. They were striking to kill the very thing for which these sailors were fighting and dying. It was a strike against democracy. Defender

Seven Negro workers had been upgraded at the Wright Aircraft plant, and as a protest the white workers walked out. If ever a strike was fascist in intent and effect that strike was. Responsible union leaders condemned it, and after four days succeeded in getting them back to work. Two hundred and forty of the strike ringleaders were dismissed. Chicago, Illinois

Most accounts of the story emphasized the wrath of the sailors against all striking workers, when the wrath of those in the armed forces, as well as civilians, should have been directed against this particular undemocratic strike. The only method to combat effectively actions of this type is for the press to turn the spotlight on these fascists and smoke them out at every opportunity. These strikes should not be presented in such a way as to discredit honest labor, as these strikes are as much against the principles of honest labor unions as against the war effort. 7-29-44

One of the declared principles for which this war is being fought is democracy, economic as well as political. Freedom from economic slavery is the greatest stake that Negroes have in this struggle. If this is lost, then the Negro soldiers have fought in vain.

Special emphasis should be placed on strikes caused by hatred toward any minority group. Such strikes should be made so unpopular that the participants would hang their heads in shame. Let's give full cooperation both to management and labor leaders who oppose such fascistic racialist nonsense.

35j-1944

Seek Settlement of Anti-Bias Strike

AFRO-AMERICAN BALT., MD.

W. T. Grinnage (center), local examiner for the Fair Employment Practice Committee, confers with workers and union officals of the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Company, Bridgeport, Pa., in an effort to settle the dispute in which 500 white workers walked out in protest to alleged discrimination against colored fellow workers. Frank Gable, president of Local 58, United Textile Workers, AFL, is shown at right center, and Edward Hirschberger, international UTW president, at left center. Others in the group are Robert Williams, Frank Hoffman, vice president, and Allen Booz, secretary-treasurer of Local 58.

Los Angeles Ry. Won't Hire Us

AFRO-AMERICAN BALT., MD.

FEPC Finds Colored Conductors in Frisco

PROBE SHIPYARDS

8-12-44

Coast Boilermakers Are Under Fire

By J. ROBERT SMITH

LOS ANGELES—The Los Angeles Railway Committee is refusing to use qualified colored men and women as motormen and conductors, the President's FEPC (Fair Employment Practice Committee) was told here Tuesday.

The committee is sitting at the State Building where it is probing charges against the railway company and West Coast shipyards to decide whether they must secure full union membership rights for colored workers. The hearing room is packed.

Maceo Hubbard, Philadelphia attorney and counsel for the committee, fired the opening gun in the railway company by placing Cortez Strange, senior interviewer for the USES, on the witness stand.

USES Agent Talks

In her testimony, Mrs. Strange declared that she had on many occasions called to the attention of J. I. Finn, white, placement manager of the company the fact that colored applicants for motormen and platform workers were discriminated against because of their color.

She further testified that at no time was she able to get Finn to commit himself upon the hiring policies of the railway company. She cited figures to show that of the hundreds of colored and white applicants referred for conductor, conductorettes, mechanics, guards and machinists jobs, the only ones that colored were offered were yardmen.

Porter Jobs Only

James A. Herod, a graduate of Strait College, New Orleans, now an insurance executive, told the committee that he applied for a position as motorman, but was told that he could be only a porter. Herod is the father of six children and has purchased 50 war bonds.

Mrs. Nora Slayden, 26, who worked as a conductor with the San Francisco Municipal Railway Co. for more than a year and during that time also served as an instructor to colored and white applicants, said she was discouraged from making application for a conductor's job here.

Happier in Kitchen"

"I am from the South and have dealt with your people all my life. I think colored people are happier in domestic service," she quoted Finn as telling her.

When questioned by Hubbard in relation to her experiences as a conductor in San Francisco, Slayden said, "I had no trouble whatsoever. As a matter of fact I was told by many white people that they preferred the colored conductors since they had more patience with the children and older persons." 8-12-44

J. Stuart Neary, white, attorney for the Los Angeles Railway Company, in his reserved opening statement told the committee during the afternoon session that the responsibility of elminating the discrimination practiced by the railway company rests with the government.

Looks to U.S. for Protection

His brief statement is as follows:

"Because of the refusal of our employees to work when colored men where upgraded and hired as platform workers some time ago, the responsibility rests with the government to see that there is no work stoppage.

"Without the government's help there is a clear possibility of a major work stoppage. The company admits it has refused to hire colored men for platform service. It continues to hire them in the same positions which they have always been operating in.

"It has refused to ungrade colored men in mechanical positions where they were not employed before. Circumstances are entirely beyond our control, for our own employees have indicated their refusal to work if the company obeys the Executive Order.

Cites Previous Effort

"An effort was made with colored men who have had a good record with the company. Immediately as we attempted to promote them, the employees showed signs of work stoppage. The problem has to be worked out by those who have the power. The responsibility rests with the government." 8-12-44

Neary cited the Philadelphia case and said that LARY did not want such a thing to happen.

Bishop Raps Bias

Council for civic unity representing 200 community organizations including labor, church, fraternal, social and political groups, represented a brief denouncing the railway company's discrimination as did Bishop Joseph D. T. McGucken, white, Catholic auxiliary bishop of the diocese of the City of Los Angeles.

State Court Rules

Even as the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee opened hearings to decide whether shipyards must secure full union membership rights for colored employees, a State court decision Tuesday had given "no" as the answer.

Superior Judge Emmet H. Wilson sustained demurrers of four shipbuilding companies to an injunction suit brought against them and the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, AFL, seeking to compel them to admit colored shipyard workers to unrestricted membership in the union. 8-12-44

Firms Duck Responsibility

Judge Wilson upheld the contention of the companies that they had no control over the union bylaws which relegate colored workers to membership in segregated auxiliaries.

This eliminated the California Shipbuilding Corporation, Standard Shipbuilding Corporation, Western Pipe and Steel Co., and consolidated Shipbuilding Corporation as respondents to the action.

This ruling, while it mean that the State of California will not require the shipyards to secure equal union membership treatment for their colored workers, did not halt the FEPC's proceedings to determine whether the Federal Government should not compel them to do so.

Union Must Answer

The court ordered Local 92 of the Boilermakers' Union to answer the suit, which was filed by Andrew Blakeney and five other members of a so-called jim-crow auxiliary, seeking to compel the Brotherhood to admit them and 5,000 other colored shipyard workers to unrestricted membership in Local 92.

In the FEPC hearing, the companies' contention that because the union makes its own rules, the employers are blameless, did not find such ready acceptance as it did in Judge Wilson's court.

Still Negotiating

Chairman Malcolm Ross of the FEPC conceded that the International Union, at its last convention, had failed to provide for he full and unqualified admission of colored members, but declared the committee is still negotiating on the question with the International.

The committee heard G. I. Copeland, supervisor of employment at Calship, testify that his company relaxed or disregarded aptitude tests for welders in the case of colored workers, because they often turned out to be perfectly competent welders despite a poor showing in the tests.

Employing More

Copeland said Calship now employs 51,128 colored workers out of a total of some 35,000, a proportion of about 14 per cent, compared with 8 per cent three years ago.

Gordon Johnson, attorney for Calship, then began his argument for dismissal of the preceedings with respect to his company.

Waiting to present the case against the shipbuilding concerns on behalf of the colored workers was Ben Margolis, attorney for the Shipyard Committee for Equal Participation, organized by members of the auxiliary union.

Sitting with Chairman Ross are FEPC members Charles Houston, Boris Shishkin, John Brophy and Milton P. Webster.

Negro Street Car Operators Make First Run In Philadelphia

Tribune — Savannah, Ga. 8-17-44

FOLLOWING ENDING OF SIX DAY STRIKE OF WHITE EMPLOYEES

Objecting To Up-Grading of Negro Workers

8-12-44

Philadelphia, Aug.— (ANP). With the army still in control of the transportation system and all but 181 of the original 6,000 white strikers on the job, seven of the eight Negro street car operators, whose upgrading is alleged to be the principal reason for the five day strike, made their first trial run Thursday.

Previously they had been reporting daily to the barn where they were originally assigned and then to the employment department where they received their orders to return to their homes until the following day.

A spokesman for the group intimated that they went into this thing with a definite objective in view and they were going to stick it out until they had gained that objective. 8-17-44

It was learned from a reliable source that they were delayed in their training by the fact that the instructors were pressed into service as operators of trolleys. There were no classes for the training of operators being held during this time.

After tying up the transportation facilities of the city for five days, the workers employed by the Philadelphia Transportation system returned to work a little poorer, but possibly no wiser, a week ago Sunday.

By Tuesday, full service had been restored and on Thursday seven of the eight colored trainees took practice runs as trolley operators. They were sent out with their instructors and a military guard. The other man failed to report, but no explanation could be obtained. 8-17-44

Acting under orders issued by Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, who took over the PTC on Thursday of last week under executive orders, the men who had participated in the unauthorized "walk-out" as a protest against the company's hiring and upgrading colored men and starting them in classes to fit them as motormen, resumed their duties with only 181 of the more than 6,000 failing to report for duty long before the deadline set by Gen. Hayes was near.

More than 8,000 soldiers set up camp in Fairmount park and started the grim business of convoying the trolleys, buses and subway and elevated lines on their routes. Rigged in full battle gear, with rifles and fixed bayonets, they brought to the peaceful "City of Brotherly Love" an aspect of the way that many had never expected to see. 8-17-44

Despite the many rumors to the contrary, there were no colored soldiers assigned to "ride hard" on the traction system. Colored soldiers who were seen here were members of transportation units of the quartermasters corps whose job it was to bring the soldiers and their supplies here.

Meantime, the four men who were known to be the ringleaders of the movement which halted traffic, were arrested and held in $2,500 bail each for the grand jury by U. S. Commissioner Griffin. They were later released under bail furnished by friends. When they finally decided to return to work, they were told that they were fired.

A special session of the grand jury was called by Atty Gen. Francis Biddle to investigate thoroughly the charges brought by Michel J. Quill, president of the Transportation Workers union, CIO, who accused the PTC of being in collusion with the strikers. The FBI and local government agencies are cooperating with Biddle in the investigation. 8-17-44

The hearings, which began Wednesday, were held in the regular grand jury room in the federal building. Henry A. Schweinhaut, special assistant to the U. S. attorney general, is conducting the inquiry.

When the first cars left the barns early Sunday morning, each was guarded by an armed soldier immediately behind the operator and a second soldier at the rear of the vehicle. By Wednesday the guard had been relieved to only one soldier and by Friday no guards were on the cars during the day but one rode each car during the night.

The state and city orders banning the sale of intoxicating liquors in the Philadelphia area were also eased. Surrounding counties were permitted to resume their normal sales, but Philadelphia itself remained dry until Monday when state stores, taps rooms were open for business between 7 a. m. and 6 p. m. daily, except Sunday when they are normally closed.

Other motives than the upgrading of Negro men have been suggested for the strike, but no other has been given by the strikers or have yet proved to be true by investigators.

500 Whites Seek End to Jim Crow in Plant

Afro-American 8th Ed.

Workers Want Guarantee That Job Opportunities Will Be Equal

5-27-44 (Special to the AFRO)

BRIDGEPORT, Pa.—Some 500 white workers of the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Co. here have refused to return to work until the company agrees to end discrimination against colored workers in the plant.

Despite Army and Navy demands, the workers, members of Local 58, United Textile Workers' Union (AFL), continue their unauthorized strike begun last week.

Boiler Room Only

Repeated rebuffs from the company in union negotiations and finally the company's flat refusal to upgrade any of its four colored workers are the main complaints. The colored workers have been retricted to the rotary boiler room with no opportunity to advance into cleaner and better paying departments.

Two of the workers, Joseph Silas and Robert Willams, have worked in the boiler room for twenty years and are limited to pay of 79 cents an hour.

With the Army and Navy threatening to take over the plant, Edward Hirschberger, the union's international vice president, has personally urged the workers to return.

He says, however: "The strike is not sanctioned by the union, but right or wrong, they're our people, and it's our duty to stand by them."

According to Frank Gablo, union president and a mechanic in the plant, "the company has refused to recognize our union ever since we voted for it last August. Sure, we have a contract but it doesn't mean a thing to the company. We've all been sore, but now we're really mad when we know how they are treating colored workers here and refusing to give them a chance. Our boys feel that if the colored worker can't get his rights, what worker can?"

In spite of the fact that the workers have agreed to return to work if the company guarantees to correct the condition, Vice President Frank Anderson of the company refuses to guarantee anything until the workers return.

Although the basic issue involved is discrimination and the workers are demanding economic equality for colored workers, they have promised to return to work and discuss other grievances later if only the company will end bias.

The company manufactures gears for airplane and tractor motors.

35j-1944

4 Negroes Jim Crowed;

Tribune — Washington, D.C.

Back-to-Work Order Defied

5-27-44

Till Company Rights Wrongs

Defying a back-to-work order, more than 500 employees of the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Company of Bridgeport, Pa. (only four are Negroes) on Saturday, refused to return to work until the company guarantees an end to discrimination of Negroes in the plant.

The workers have been out more than a week on an unauthorized strike of members of Local 58, United Textile Workers' Union, AFL, provoked by repeated rebuffs from the company in union negotiations and finally the company's flat refusal to advance Negro workers who have worked in the plant from ten to twelve years.

According to Frank Gable, union president and a mechanic in the plant, the company has refused to recognize the union ever since it was voted for last August. He declared that the contract with the company did not mean much but the union members were really mad when they saw how Negro workers were refused a chance.

5-27-44

No Advance in 20 Years

The four Negroes in the plant are confined to the rotary boiler room two of whom, Robert Williams and Joseph Silas, foreman, have worked there for twenty years with no opportunity to advance into cleaner and better-paying departments.

They along with others charge discriminatory pay rates as well as unsanitary conditions not comparable to departments where white workers are. The room in which the Negroes work has a blower at one end through which fags come cut up. There are no safeguards and the men breathe dust eight hours a day and more.

5-27-44

Both the Army and Navy have threatened to take over the plant to keep production going on gears for airplane and tractor motors, it is reported, but the workers refuse to return without company guarantees that unjust conditions will be corrected.

However, they have agreed to return to work and discuss other grievances later if only the company will end discrimination.

PHILLY STRIKE BROKEN;

Plaindealer — Kansas City, Kan.

LEADERS FACE JAIL

8-11-44

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 11 (ANP)—After a series of events and incidents, ranging from racial clashes to the complete tieup of the city's transportation system and the stoppage of vital war production, the seven-day wildcat strike by 6,000 white transit workers came to an end Monday at 2 a. m., following an Army ultimatum issued by Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes last Saturday. Nearly 100 per cent of the strikers signed to retrn to work, and three strike leaders have been ofificially discharged by the Philadelphia Transit company and now face federal imprisonment for possible violation of the Smith-Connally anti-strike act.

Swift legal strokes all synchronized by various Government departments, backed the right of Negro workers to be upgraded to all positions in accordance with the proviisons of the FEPC and War Manpower commission. Caught in this force of Federal justice were James H. McMenamin, leader and spokesman for the 6,000 strikers: William C. Dixey, Frank P. Carney and Frank Thompson. All are under $2,500 bond until Aug. 14 when they will be arranged for hearings.

8-11-44

Realizing that the five-day strike had resulted in at least a 50 per cent drop in war production and racial clashes, United States commissioner Norman J. Griffin told the four strike leaders Sunday night after McMenamin had made his back-to-work radio appeal that "you men have given Philadelphia one of the worst weeks in its history."

"I have my orders from the Army," McMenamin said, "All employes are to go back to work at their regular posts not later than 12:01 a. m. Monday."

These words were the death knoll to the rebellion against eight Negro workers to hold jobs in all branches of the transportation system. They followed Maj: Gen. Philip Hayes' army ultimatum to the 6,000 strikers to return to work or right; an order by Atty. Gen. Biddle for a federal jury investigation to determine whether any federal statutes have been violated.

8-11-44

Much speculation as to how the anti-Negro strike was organized is rife. McMenamin, 43, and a transit employe for 21 years, is a former member of the old Philadelphia Rapid Transit employes' union. Noting the superb organization behind the strike, the consensus of opinion is that McMenamin is merely the spokesman for a well-planned plot. Investigation has been blocked by the strikers' silence. A recent report, however, revealed that it was principally a matter of seniority rights that caused the objection to the upgrading of the eight Negro workers rather than the employment of Negroes generally.

Appeals from union leaders to return to work, including the CIO officials, who represent the strikers' labor affiliations, have been ignored. Although the CIO recently won the rights as the bargaining agency of the 6,000 strikers, CIO union leaders have been repeatedly jeered in a manner that indicates tha tthey have little or no influence over the members of their new local.

8-11-44

Not even the edicts from the Army was effective at first in breaking the strike. Many sullen men around the various car barns, declaring that they would not obey the army's back-to-work order. On Saturday a vote to continue the strike was taken in face of warnings by Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle, U. S. Atty. Gerald A. Gleeson and Special Deputy Atty. Gen. Henry Schweinhaut.

After Capt. John W. I. Cody had refused to permit McMenamin to address the men at the Luzerno depot, James J. Fitzmen, international vice-president of the Transport Workers (CIO) union, appeared at the 49th Street and Woodland Avenue barn, where he told 200 strikers, who were just sitting around, that "our stand remains the same. "We are trying to get the men to go back on the principles of the CIO—no racial discrimination," he said.

At least 21 civic organizations, unions, fraternal, religious and racial organizations have petitioned Atty. Gen. Francis Biddle to make a sweeping investigation to determine the hidden forces that has stimulated and promoted the strike.

8-11-44

"A fleet of Nazi bombers could not have caused as much damage as has this treacherous stab in the back to Philadelphia's war production and reputataion as 'The City of Brotherly Love," stated the Eastern Penn. district of the International Workers Order, a fraternal benefit society of 175,000 members in protesting attacks on the rights of Negro citizens to equal job opportunities.

It is "rank sabotage," declared the unior Board of Commerce of Philadelphia.

Amid this scene stand armed troops ready to move into action should the Army's order to return to work be ignored. Several thousand army bases are reported to be enroute to the city and will be commandered by troops. All public vehicles will be adequately guarded by soldiers.

8-11-44

"Every one of us guys should be over there killing Nazis," said one of the troopers," but instead we're here in Philadelphia ready to fight a lot of mugs who may not be shooting pepole but still are doing a good job for the axis."

By Monday sullen and resentful strikers began straggling back to work in time to beat the Army's deadline for registration, which carried the "work or fight" penalty, plus the loss of employment for the duration and immediate cancellation of draft deferments. These found guilty of the Smith-Connally act will be subjected to imprisonment and a possible $5,000 fine.

8-11-44

The break came with sudden swiftness Sunday when the forces of the Federal government began to function with combined power. The eight Negroes will be upgraded in spite of 6,000 protesting strikers.

Crow ... in public conveyances ... and that may comfort them, but, ... all in all, they probably have found ... life in the North no better than in the South. They are confined to segregated districts where rents are high and living conditions unhealthy. Thier chances for employment are limited to service jobs and generally menial positions. Their educa-

5-11-44

Editorial Opinion Of Nations Press On Philadelphia Strike

Plaindealer — Kansas City, Kan.

5-11-44

THE NEGRO PROBLEM

By N. Y. Daily News

No doubt some way will be found of restoring the traveling facilities of the city so that war production schedules can be resumed. That is important, but there is another aspect to the strike that is much wider in significance. That is the rather frightening flare of race prejudice that might be expected in Mobile, Ala., but not of Philadelphia.

More Is Concerned Than War Production

It is another demonstration of the deeply ... portion of

tional privileges may be better, but they soon find that education isn't much help to them. Many a college-trained Negro is a Pullman porter or an elevator operator because he has found that white men will not give him a job for which he is qualified.

In extreme youth the Negro child may not be aware of the situation that his dark skin places him in, but as he moves into adolescence, he sees that he's different, and that life is going to be hard for him. This, we think, is the reason why there are muggers and gangs of hoodlums in Harlem and elsewhere — the youngsters are turned bitter at an early age when they see that the chances are against them. They develop a what-the-hell attitude because they know they have little to lose.

There are some 13,000,000 Negroes in the country. Their ancestors didn't ask to be brought here. They obviously can't be sent back to Africa now. And the breach between the races seems to be growing.

8-11-44

We have heard of no way in which this problem can be solved quickly if it can be solved at all, without a complete change of attitude on the part of the white population which is unlikely.

Gunnar Myrdal, the Swedish social scientist who came here for the Carnegie Corporation to make a study as an outside observer of what is called "the least clean corner of the national household," produced a book called "An American Dilemma; the Negro Problem and Modern Democracy." It is a thorough work and we may be presumptuous in boiling the findings down to this:

American idealism and American practice do not agree. We proclaim equality loudly but do not permit it to the Negro. We tell ourselves the Negro is after our womanhood; what the Negro really wants is a good job.

8-11-44

SETBACK IN PHILADELPHIA

By New York Times

If our enemies had been asked what they would like to have happen in Philadelphia, they could hardly have thought of anything better for them and worse for us than what did happen there, beginning early Tuesday morning. Robots or airplane bombs would have united the people of Philadelphia. In a common grief and anger they would have worked harder than ever to win the war. The actual occurrence separated and frustrated them. The working time of thousands of men and women in war factories was wasted. White American employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Company went on strike, in defiance of publica interestand public policy, in contemptuous disregard of the responsibilities they had knowingly assumed, in order to prevent the promotion of dark-skinned American employees.

8-11-44

The employers in this instance were acting not on their own initiative, but on that of the Federal Government anxious to make full use of available manpower and to prevent discrimination on account of race. The issue of seniority for men promoted from the shops to the operation of street cars might have been peaceably settled through the War Labor Board. Surely neither the WLB nor any other Federal agency would have ordered the Philadelphia Transportation Company to give new employees or newly promoted employees seniority over old employes or over former employes now in the armed services. It is apparent that the basic issue was not seniority, but color. And in opportunities for jobs which they are qualified to fill, it is the public policy of the United States to put Negroes and white men on the same footing.

8-11-44

INSTIGATORS SHOULD BE PUNISHED

My Philadelphia Record

We have never believed that 6000 PTC employes suddenly, unanimously and voluntarily decided to strike against the orders of their company, against the orders of their union and against the wishes of their gorvernment.

Their strike was inspired by the underground, undercover activity of individuals who, day after day, poured race hatred into their ears. These men artfully aroused their emotions, lied to them about the seniority clause in their contract, misrepresented the Government agencies which were striving to overcome the manpower shortage by upgrading Negro employes.

Who these undercover workers were is becoming apparent. What interests instigated their ugly activities. The Record is not yet prepared to say. They were probably NOT enemy agents. But they caused as much harm as a regiment of Nazi saboteurs.

There should be severe punishment for the instigators of this subversive propaganda and for the agents themselves.

8-11-44

It is tragic to find irresponsible Negroes outdoing irresponsible whites in the wave of hoodlum outbreaks in North Philadelphia Tuesday night.

At this writing half a dozen white persons have been beaten, trucks have been overturned, store windows smashed by bands of Negro youths.

Philadelphia's responsible Negro leaders have been striving to halt these outbreaks. They know what the hoodlums ought to know:

This intelligent cooperation of whites and Negroes in the Police Department is a lesson in itself.

It is a lesson in tolerance and comman sense. It demonstrates that wisdom, sportsmanship and brotherhood — not a color line — determine how well men get along together.

8-11-44

END THIS OUTRAGEOUS STRIKE!

By Philadelphia Inquirer

If there must be Federal seizure of Philadelphia's strike-bound transit system to remedy an intelerable situation it is profoundly to be hoped that it comes soon.

Federal action or not, the major imperative is to get the cars, trains and buses running, and keep them running. Philadelphians and the national war effort have suffered enough through this unspeakable P. T. C. walkout. It must be ended.

But Government seizure and operation of the transit system, if such is required, will not solve the deeply disturbing issue from which the disgraceful walkout—clearly a violation of the War Labor Disputes Act—stemmed. Plant seizure in wartime strikes has consistently proved only a stop-gap.

The car and bus operators who stopped work outohtu warning permitted race prejudice to overrule every other consideration, including their duty to the Philadelphia public and to the Nation.

They disregard completely the fact that, with the aid of Philadelphia war plants and the Philadelphia Navy Yard, the United States is now battling on a global front for the liberty and dignity of individual men and women of every race and color.

8-11-44

In walking out because a few Negroes were ungraded by the P. T. C. in a commendable effort to eliminate racial discrimination the employees disavowed the cause of freedom for whic htheir country even their own sons and brothers are fighting.

What did they hope to gain by such a thoroughly unjustifiable act of sabotage on the home front? Rescinding by the P. T. C. of its agreement to remove the color line in the training and advancement of workers? But the agreement to give Negroes fair play, however progressive and praiseworthy, was in compliance with Federal orders. No man or group of men is greater than the Government.

Whatever the opinion of the car workers regarding the War Manpower Commission's ruling and the Fair Employment Practice Committee's directive to the company concerning Negro employees, they had no justification for their shockingly un-American, undemocratic reprisal.

8-11-44

Furthermore, whether or not the WMC order was well timed has no bearing whatever on the issue now. The plain fact is that a group of employees placed their own narrow, selfish, prejudiced demands above the needs of their country and of their fellow men.

With what result? With the result that the output of war goods required for victory over the cutthroat Nazis and Japs was reduced, thousands of persons inconvenienced and Philadelphia business sharply slashed.

With the result, also, that such humanitarian essentials as blood donations to save the lives of our brave service men were cut down because donors could not get to Red Cross stations.

With the result, moreover, that Philadelphia, City of Brotherly Love, has been smeared from one end of the country, to the other with the stigma of racial prejudice and lawlessness.

This is not the time to go into complicated negotiations dealing with racial and other issues. There will be time later for calm, reasoned consideration of such matters. The first necessity is to get the cars, trains, and buses running.

8-11-44

End this outrageous strike—now!

Hate Strike Ends at Ohio GM Plant

DAYTON, Ohio—(ANP)—Forty-seven white workers who walked out of the Inland Manufacturing division of the General Motors Corporation last week when two colored employees were promoted to their department returned to work the latter part of the week.

The company refused the workers' demand that the colored men be transferred, and when the whites went on strike they were advised that they were free to quit, because the colored employees would remain on their new jobs.

6-3-44

Harold E. Beck, president of Local 87, United Rubber Workers of America (CIO), and Asa Tiller, international union representative, warned the workers that unless they resumed production, it may mean expulsion from the union.

Odgen Street said that at first she was quite nervous about her husband's safety, but after she talked to her husband, her fears were allayed.

Forty-two-year-old Lancaster pointed out that they could, if they were willing to give in, go back to their old jobs, and even draw more money than the trolley posts will pay.

They knew, he said, when they went in for the jobs they would have trouble, and so were prepared to stick through whatever came. "If the government stands back of us, we will stay," he said.

Said Mrs. James Stewart, 2237 Second Street: "I want my husband to drive a trolley, not the job but for the thing. I am an Elphian and I have sur- fights. Twenty years er was fighting for the I expect my husband ame, and I will instill the same principle."

Mr. Rufus Lancaster of 4402 in my son the s

PTC Trainees Wives Want Husbands to Fight to Finish

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

9-12-44

By LULA JONES GARRETT

PHILADELPHIA. — Anxious for their husbands' safety, but grim in their determination to see the PTC segregation pattern broken, wives of the men involved in the strike stood solidly behind them to stick to their guns, here, last week.

It was the same fighting spirit that had inspired colored men to dare the underground railroad that had urged them off penal farms in the South, and that now made it necessary to fight to stand the encrouching segregation of the North.

9-12-44

Necessary Procedure

The attitude of the majority of the women was expressed in the words of Mrs. Emmett Wiggleworth, 3837 Sixteenth Street. "Fighting this thing out is just a necessary procedure," said Mrs. Wiggleworth. "We have had to fight for each inch of ground we have secured. First it was for jobs in the post office, then as firemen and later on the police force. Of course, I am anxious for my husband's safety, but we are both anxious for our children's future."

The Wiggleworths have three children, two boys, 9 and 10, and an 11-year-old daughter. He had been a porter with PTC for eight years prior to the upgrading which brought about the strike. He has, he says, many white friends in the company and thinks

Wonders About "Sacrifice"

Just pure "fighting made" was Mrs. Joseph Jones of 5553 Blakemore Avenue. She wasn't worried about Mr. Jones's safety, she says, from the Army through a medical discharge. He enlisted immediately after Pearl Harbor and was wounded in the Pacific. Said the plucky little wife: "So that he

35j-1944

"Straining at a Gnat . . ."

Weekly — New Orleans, La.
8-19-44

THE comments of the local and Southern dailies editorially on the Philadelphia "hate" strike were in the main blaming the administration and the FEPC for the tieup of the "City of Brotherly Love" transportation system which kept thousands of war workers from making urgently needed war materials for the boys at the front. It was the first time strikers were acclaimed in the Southern press and not condemned; the reason—they were striking for white supremacy. The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice was viciously criticized for attempting to seek to upgrade Negro workers to the level of motormen and conductors. The Philadelphia strike was the Southern editorial writers' meat and they went to town and had a field day.

It appears, however, a little strange and far fetched that these writers who can get so steamed up over a "hate" strike in Philadelphia cannot find the space to ask for tolerance, understanding, square dealing, justice and fair play for the Negro in the South, who is oppressed, bullied and brutalized by "Southern hospitality." Hardly ever is a word spoken for bettering racial relationships, for adequate school facilities, adequate recreational facilities, adequate economic opportunities or the political opportunities that are accorded all American citizens. Seldom, if at all do these writers condemn the brutalities of the police, sheriffs and mobs who in the last three months have killed four Negroes in cold blood (2 in Mississippi and 2 in Louisiana), and run and beaten Negroes out of their home town (New Iberia). In other words, these writers lack the moral guts or are too blinded by prejudice to write straight or fearlessly on conditions in their own backyards.

The Rev. William C. Kernan in an article captioned "The Common Defense" gives somewhat of a clear picture of the type of people who say they believe in justice, freedom and honesty but deal in deceit and hypocrisy, and we quote the article in its entirety:
8-19-44

"There are people who will readily admit the truth of the Christian principle that all men, without any exceptions whatever, are created in the image of God, and the democratic principle that 'all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights.' But quite as often as not, in applying these principles to specific situations, these same people urge the kind of caution which amounts to refusing to apply these principles at all.

"They know, as indeed we all do, that the miserable hovels in which Negroes live, the discrimination against Negroes in public places and in employment, the lack of health and educational opportunities for them, and the blatant manner in which they are prevented from voting in some parts of this country are, at every single point, denials of the Christian doctrine of man made in God's image, and the democratic principle of equal rights. If you believe what Christanity and democracy say about man, you do not treat Negroes, or anyone else, that way.

"So, since principles were given to men for guides in the practical affairs of life, we have a right to ask the people who, under the guise of 'caution,' do nothing for the alleviation of human misery: When do you intend to begin applying to Negroes in America the Christian and democratic principles in which you say that you believe. Are you going on forever saying that you are good Christians and good Americans and, at the same time, are you going to refuse to raise a finger to destroy the filthy slums in which Negroes are compelled to live? Are you going on affirming that you believe in being kind to your neighbors, and yet forever do your part to hinder the expression of that kindness in extending to Negroes equal opportunity with white people for equal work? Are you going on exalting Christian morality and democratic virtue while, in the name of 'caution,' you fear to open school and hospital facilities to American Negroes?
8-19-44

"Principles cannot be held in a vacuum. In order to live, principles must be applied. We must begin to apply them somewhere, sometime to the problems of our Negro brothers in America.

"Someone is sure to answer that our Christian and American principles are being applied to the improvement of the status of Negroes in America. That is right. They are. But not by the people who plead 'caution' as an excuse for inaction. Our principles are being applied, however gradually, by people who believe in them and who know that you cannot believe in any principle for long unless you give it expression at once."

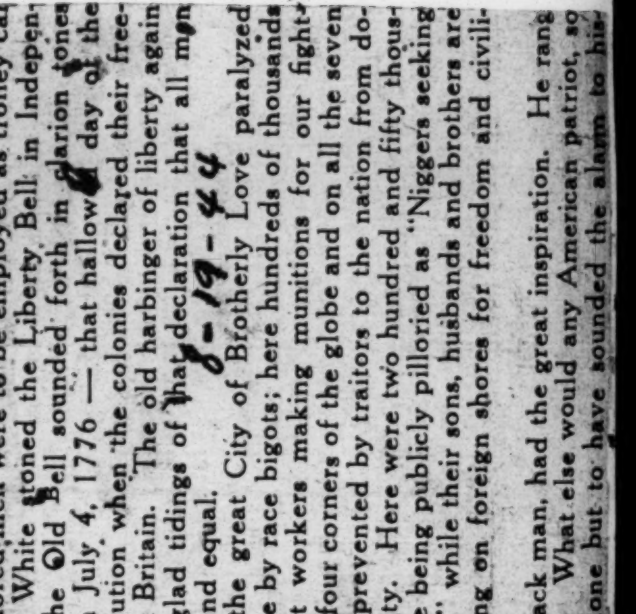
THAT PHILADELPHIA STRIKE

Argus — St. Louis, Mo. 8-11-44

The news about the strike of some six thousand Philadelphia transportation company employees was no "music to our ears." In fact, it troubled us very much. The proposal on the part of the transportation company to upgrade eight Negro employees to the positions of motormen or conductors was a spark which touched off the smouldering prejudices of six thousand employees of the company who, their leader says, will not return to work if Negroes are upgraded. We repeat, such news gives no encouragement to our hope for the coming of a better world in which to live following the close of this present world conflict.

Just think of it. A proposal to train eight Negroes to enable them to be upgraded (or promoted) in the ranks of the company which they have served for many years has caused more than 200,000 people a great inconvenience on account of the lack of public transportation in the City of Brotherly Love. Is this what we call Americanism? We wonder what the unions are doing (we understand that these Negroes are members of the CIO).

The government, to be sure, has taken over and, ere this comment is read in print, the strike will be settled. But the fact that such a thing could happen in a supposed civilized community over such a trivial matter (we use the expression trivial because the few Negroes immediately involved, the inconvenience to hundreds of thousands, and
8-11-44


...olored men were to be employed as trolley car...
...s White stoned the Liberty Bell in Indepen...
...The Old Bell sounded forth in clarion tones...
...on July 4, 1776 — that hallowed day of the...
...olution when the colonies declared their free...
...at Britain. The old harbinger of liberty again...
...glad tidings of that declaration that all men...
...and equal.
8-19-44
...the great City of Brotherly Love paralyzed...
...ke by race bigots; here hundreds of thousands...
...nt workers making munitions for our fighting...
...four corners of the globe and on all the seven...
...prevented by traitors to the nation from do...
...uty. Here were two hundred and fifty thous...
...le being publicly pilloried as "Niggers seeking...
..." while men's jobs, husbands and brothers are...
...ring on foreign shores for freedom and civili...
...lack man, had the great inspiration. He rang...
...! What else would any American patriot, so...
...done but to have sounded the alarm to his...

White, a black man, had the great inspiration. He rang the Liberty Bell! What else would any American patriot, so inspired, have done but to have sounded the alarm to his

Was He Crazy?
Daily News — New York, N.Y.
During the tumult and the rioting in Philadelphia at the height of the strike by 6000 public transportation employees

...? What other thing could a patriot have done to ...ken his nation against the enemies within — at that ...ment in the act of sabotaging the nation? What other ...g could have so surely roused his country? His brave noble act forced Washington to dispatch troops to crush rebellion and to take its stand on the side of human ...ts. It was Charles White, not Franklin Roosevelt nor ...eral Hayes, who ended the national disgrace and disaster ...he Philadelphia transit strike. White's genius galvanized ...nation's soul into action. There was nothing else for the ...try to do.

The minions of the law jailed him, not being able to ...erstand that the black man could rationally conceive the ...a of such a deed. They called him crazy and placed ... under observation.

8-19-44

If White was crazy, so was John Brown of Ossawotamie ...n he dramatized, with his life on the gallows at Harper's ...y, his opposition to the inhuman system of human ...ery. If White was crazy, so were the earlier blacks, ... Turner and Denmark Vesey, leading rebellions at the ... of their lives against slavery.

If White was crazy, so was Toussaint L'Ouverture taking ...uccessful arms against a sea of French forces exploiting ...i. If White was crazy so was Patrick Henry, Joan of ... the Nobles at Runnymeads forcing the Magna Charta ... King John, and so were Martin Luther and Horatius at ... Bridge—and so were al lthe martyrs crazy who have ... the cause of human liberty since time began. Charles ...te made August 2 the beginning of a new era in the pro...sive march of human freedom in America. The Libtry ... was rung to usher in three of those epochs, in 1779, in ...3 and now in 1944. White had divine wisdom. He was ...ngry.

...fendants Post Bond

...rand Jury Indicts 30 in Philly 'Hate Strike'

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

10-14-44

PHILADELPHIA—The 30 defendants named by a U. S. Grand ...ry for participation in the transportation "hate strike" surren...red Saturday before U. S. Commissioner Griffith, and were re...ased on $500 bail to await trial.

By JACK SAUNDERS, Staff Correspondent

PHILADELPHIA—The Federal Grand Jury, which last week in...ed 30 persons as perpetrators of the "hate strike" that tied up ...sportation in this metropolis of defense production for six days ... August, has placed the blame for the "outrage" directly in the ... of its few prejudiced whites who apparently would go to any ...nt to rob Negro Americans of equality in this land of de...racy.

"It seemed quite clear," the jury ... in a lengthy report presented ... Federal court by Foreman ...rles J. Baker, "that, so far as ...re was flame or fire in the ...ke, the chief fuel therefore came ...n resentment over the upgrad... of Negroes to platform posi...s, such as none of their race ... heretofore held."

10-14-44

STATEMENT TELLS STORY

That statement, in so many ...rds, told the story of the cause ... the transit strike that will go down in American history as an ugly blemish on the record of Philadelphia, Pa., and the country at large . . . It told how a hand full of white men defied the President of the United States just to keep eight Negroes from operating trolley cars in the Quaker City . . . and it told how those men aided and abetted the hordes of Hitler and Hirohito when they caused a stoppage in daily transportation to the defense plants in this, the second largest production center in the Nation.

10-14-44

Thirty of those men will not go unpunished, however, for they have been indicted by the grand jury, charged with violating the Smith-Connally act. Heading the list are the alleged ring leaders of the strike, two of whom said: "Negroes will never drive trolleys here . . . This thing won't go in Philadelphia." Those alleged ring-leaders are James H. McMenamin, 3852 N. 13th street; Frank P. Carney, 3429 E street; Frank Thompson, 3908 N. 10th street and William C. Dixey, Jr., 5720 Fredrick street. But they were wrong in their assertions, for "it did happen in Philadelphia" . . . and eight Negroes are now operating trolley cars on regular passenger runs.

CARMEN INDICTED

Indicted along with the quartet were Frank Baker, operator; James Brennan, bus operator; Richard Clayborne, bus operator; John Ennis, motorman; Blanton Eubanks, operator; Linwood Ford, conductor; William Green, conductor; Samuel Heake, operator; Thomas Higgins, bus driver; James Houghton, motorman; Andrew Kelly, conductor; Joseph Kervin, motorman; David Landis, bus operator; James McEaney, operator; John O'Connor, operator; Archer Powell, bus operator; Stanley Tubenc, conductor; John Rawlings, operator; Charles Roemhile, motorman; Alton Sella, operator; John Smith, operator; Harry J. Spindler, operator; Ralph Thompson, operator; Ernest Tismas, bus operator; George Weatherstone, motorman, and Daniel Redman. Each of the indicted was notified to appear in Federal court and post $500 bail for trial.

10-14-44

JURY CONDEMNS PTC

In its report, the jury condemned the PTC because it did not show "proper planning," which might have averted the strike, which was not broken until the Army moved into the city and took over.

The jury launched its investigation on August 9. More than 100 witnesses, including company officers and employees, city and Army officials were called.

Commenting on the report, a jury spokesman said: "The members of this jury wish it to be known that they agree entirely with the viewpoint which holds for this (Negro) race the right to higher position and wage wherever they so qualify on the same basis as fellow employees of the white race.

DATES BACK SEVERAL YEARS

10-14-44

"We are pleased, therefore, to express our conviction from the evidence that the great majority of the employees were not interested to strike on this basis."

The question of Negro upgrading dated back several years, but it was not until the Fair Employment Practice Commission (FEPC) issued a directive that Negroes be upgraded to positions as motormen and conductors that the ground work was laid for Negro operators.

Negroes have bedbugs, say strikers

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.

8-14-44

NEW YORK — Statements that Negroes have bedbugs, attributed to James McMenamin and Frank P. Carney, strike leaders in the Philadelphia Transportation tie-up, were cited as fomenting race hatred and incitement-to-riot by Roy Wilkins, Assistant Secretary of NAACP, who investigated the Philadelphia situation.

McMenamin, chairman of the strikers' general committee, declared, according to Wilkins, "the issue to be strictly black and white." In explaining resentment to Negroes he said: "Due to low health conditions, their inferior education and their general economic condition, their standard of living is very far below the standard of operators. We have a condition here where every man swinging between runs gets a rest on a bench in the depot. This would require a colored man to lie beside a white man, or a white man to lie where a colored man had been. The colored people have bedbugs. These benches are wood, and wood breeds bedbugs, and I don't want any bedbugs."

8-14-44

Frank Carney, former president of the old PRT employees Union, told listeners point blank: "We won't go back to work until they take the Negroes off." On the other hand a supplementary statement by operators pointed out that: "Under the upgrading privileges now in effect, Negroes employed in other departments have priority over all new applicants.

"This means that when a Negro is upgraded his place in his former department is filled with a new Negro applicant, which effectively excludes white men and women from employment.

8-14-44

"We sincerely regret the inconvenience caused the public but believe that the public will sympathize and understand when they learn we are trying to keep the public transportation system from being under the domination of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People," Carney is supposed to have declared.

Bishop Sims' PTC Statement

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

8-12-44

D. H. SIMS, PRESIDING BISHOP FIRST EPISCOPAL DISTRICT OF THE AME CHURCH

As religious leaders and religious adherents, we sorely regret the "PTC Strike Muddle." It is a distinct calamity to our city. It is a menace to our government. The procedure of the striking employees of the PTC is most unpatriotic in a time when our boys are making the supreme sacrifice in order that the very things happening in Philadelphia today, might be prevented in the international theatre.

Historically, one would expect Philadelphia to be the last place; the home of the Liberty Bell and the Cradle of Liberty. This shows we have some seed of racism indigenous to our soil which should be eradicated. The Church is challenged. Protestants, Jews and Catholics have a grave responsibility.

8-12-44

We have great hope that the matter will be settled, not temporarily but on the basis of democracy. All of us are fighting this war at home and abroad. We Christians believe that the only way it can be settled satisfactorily is to let brotherhood be the guiding principle. "All for one and one for all," is the best policy.

As bishop of the African Methodist Episcopal Church, I appeal, not only to Methodists, but to all Negroes to keep a patriotic, sane Christian equilibrium. Others have disgraced their country and themselves. Let us not fall in the same predicament. Therefore, I appeal to you, not only to be decent members of the community, but to assist in every way in the restoration of law and order.

We note with satisfaction the unequivocal position taken by The Inquirer, The Record, The Bulletin and The Daily News in their editorials. We are happy that tens of thousands of our fairminded and wise citizens, the CIO orgarizations, the churches and the N. A. A. C. P. have expressed regrets and disapproval of the strike and the causal elements in the strike.

8-12-44

I hope and request that every A. M. E. minister and every church auxiliary will enjoin all of their communicants to be patriots, sane and peaceful members of the community regardless of what contrary sentiment may get currency via radio press or street corner, by unscrupulous and shortsighted people.

Striking Negro Truck Drivers Tieup Industry

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

11-18-44

Union Officials Are Target Of Race Workers

NEW ORLEANS — (ANP) — Three big firms have been pinched by striking Negro truck drivers and leaders who walked out last week in protest against officials of their Teamsters union. The firms are J.

35j-1944

Following Up in Philadelphia

Daily Worker New York 8-9-44

GREAT damage has been done by the Philadelphia outrage. Production in a key war center has been held up, and shame has been brought down on one of our large cities.

In spite of this, the conspirators failed in their chief aim. Thanks to the position of the union, the support given the government by public opinion and above all the prompt, vigorous action by the President, the conspirators did not succeed in what they set out to do. Their aim has been to promote riots and to use such commotion to drive a wedge between the Negro people and the President and labor. In that they signally failed.

The Negro people everywhere have had dramatically brought before them the striking fact they do not stand alone. They have learned that the powerful CIO unions, reflecting the general viewpoint of labor, are behind them. They have learned, too, that there is a deep understanding among all decent Americans in favor of the Negro people's rights. They have seen above all that the Roosevelt administration could not be made to back down.

As to the Republican Party, we do not want to suggest that all its members took a partisan view in this crisis. We cannot pass over, however, the lack of responsibility demonstrated by the Republican administrations in Philadelphia and Pennsylvania. From their failure to speak out and act courageously, we think that all voters, Negro and white, will draw the conclusion they have failed in their duty.

8-8-44

What is necessary now is to follow up the President's prompt act and to prosecute those who are ringleaders of the conspiracy. Investigation into the deep and sinister forces engaged in fomenting this outrage should be carried through thoroughly. The union's charge of collusion by the company is one that should be looked into immediately. There is too much evidence on the surface to ignore it.

A firm hand is needed to deal with the poison of Nazism. All patriotic organizations, including those unions of the CIO whose record is unimpeachable on this matter, will draw a lesson from the hideous fact that this outrage could take place. They will recognize that they have not done everything to educate their members to the evil of race prejudice. The millions of new members who have joined the labor movement, with their varying experiences and viewpoint, are a challenge to union leadership and to the speeding up of such education.

Many Phila. Rallies Map Fight on Plotters

Daily Worker New York 8-10-44

Special to the Daily Worker

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9. — The white supremacy plotters started something, but an aroused and united people are going to finish it. This is the message going out for emergency community rallies being held throughout Philadelphia.

An overflow crowd of 1,500, Negro and white, said it Tuesday night at the White Rock Baptist Church, the largest Negro congregation in the city. Headed by Rev. Williamson, Negro and white ministers, Unionists and civic leaders, representing every shade of color, religion and political opinion, showed how Philadelphia's crisis was boomeranging against the plotters. Among the leaders there were Dr. Jaycox, of the Evangelical Church; Rabbi S. Newman and J. Gerson Brenner; Sol Rottenberg, IWO secretary; Helen Buckett; Crystal Byrd Fauset; John Thomlin, CIO Cannery Workers; Lillian Narins, of the Citizens Committee on Child Care; Dr. Philpott, Baptist leader, and 25 other outstanding Negro clergymen.

8-10-44

PHILADELPHIA ROUSED

Said Dr. Barrows Dunham, distinguished professor of philosophy at Temple University: "There is no difference between races, that has been proven scientifically."

A cheering audience, as varied as the speakers, gave John Devine, young Irish Communist Association secretary, an ovation as he told them:

"We will stick together and fight together until we have every son of a fascist off the streets, and that goes for the PTC Company and all other big shots behind the conspiracy."

In North Philadelphia, at Jones Tabernacle, with Rev. Stevenson presiding, 500 people thundered out the same message, with speakers including Paul Gardner, of the CIO Cannery Workers, Charles White of the North Philadelphia Civic League, Elsie Smith and Josie Hughes, Communist leaders, Arthur Huff Fauset, chairman of UNAC, Magistrate Joseph Rainey, and others.

In South Philadelphia, in the square at Fifth and Wolf, a street meeting called by the IWO in this Jewish neighborhood, called to combat anti-Semitism before the race strike occurred was turned into a mass rally to fight all racial hatreds. Speakers again represented the entire population; Abe Olken, of the Morning Freiheit, Harry Connor, NMU port agent; Thomas De Zazio, Italian Communist; Irving Rosenthal, American Jewish Congress; the Rev. John Logan, Negro minister; Jules Abarcauph, president of the AFL Jewelry Workers Local 5; Morris Shafritz, of the International Workers Order.

8-10-44

Each meeting sent messages to President Roosevelt and to Gen. Hayes, congratulating them on the government's firm and prompt action. Each meeting urged Attorney General Biddle to get the big shots behind the PTC tie-up.

"There is a universal feeling," said Elsie Smith, commenting on the wide spread community activity, "that committees should have been working before to combat the anti-Negro agitation that served as pretext for the strike, and that the committees, the meetings are setting up must do broad educational work now so that it can never happen again. The people in the streets, and homes and shops must learn quickly that the Negro is an integral part of American life, and that this integration is essential to everybody's democratic right."

Army Takes Over Quaker City Transit

Advertiser Montgomery Alabama

8-9-44

Roosevelt Directs War Secretary To Seize And Operate Property

Race Riots Ended

Philadelphia Strike Now One Of Worst In Nation; War Workers Are Idle

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3.—(AP)—Philadelphia Transportation Company workers whose three-day walkout has slashed war production voted tonight, a few hours after the Federal government seized the system, to obey an Army appeal that they return to work tomorrow morning at 5 o'clock.

The workers' decision was announced by James McMenamin, chairman of their "general emergency committee," following a mass meeting at a car barn already taken over by the Army.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3.—(U.P.)—Philadelphia's transportation system, paralyzed by a three-day strike of 5,800 workers which curtailed production in the nation's second largest war work center, was seized by the Army tonight under order of President Roosevelt.

Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, commanding general of the Third Service Command, with headquarters in Baltimore, was named the War Department representative to operate the transit system.

The seizure was effective at 8 p.m. with General Hayes taking over the transit company's office in the Mitten building.

Hayes announced that Charles E. Ebert, executive vice-president of the PTC, will serve as general manager under the War Department representative.

8-4-44

Brig. Gen. Norman Randolph, commanding general, Pennsylvania district, 3rd Service Command, will act as General Hayes' deputy in the operation of the transit company.

Stimson Takes Action

The presidential order issued from the White House in Washington authorized Secretary of War Henry Stimson to "take possession and assume control of the transportation system." The seizure, the President said, will include all real and personal property of the company "wherever situated, used or useful in connection with the operation of said systems."

The order, in line with customary procedure in seizure cases, said that government control of the transportation system would revert to the PTC when it was determined that "such possession and control are no longer necessary for purposes connected with the war emergency."

8-4-44

The strike which had paralyzed the city's transit system, curtailed war production and resulted in serious race riots between whites and negroes, was called Tuesday when company officials started "upgrading" negroes for positions as trolley operators.

"We shall operate the transit lines on the basis of conditions that prevailed before the strike," Hayes said in explaining that he hoped normal operations to be resumed by tomorrow morning. He called for cooperation of every employe of the company in getting things moving.

Gen. Hayes Speaks

Hayes scheduled a radio address over all Philadelphia stations at 9:25 p.m. in which he asked all workers to report for work at 5 a.m. tomorrow.

Hayes said no troops will be used and that no definite plan of action has been outlined in event the 5,800 strikers, affiliates of the Transport Workers Union (CIO) do not heed his call to resume their jobs.

While he did not say whether negroes would be used the following from his statement indicated they would not:

"We shall operate the transit lines on the basis of conditions that prevailed before the strike. All employes will continue in the capacity they held at that time. Our sole purpose is to keep the

8-4-44

Running Far Behind

"We are already running far behind schedule on these items cited by what legaland any curtailment at this time

would be felt almost immediately on the fighting fronts." 9-4-44

He said a continuation of the strike for any considerable length of time "would definitely prolong the war and cost thousands of lives."

Production in the Philadelphia area during the three-day strike fell off as much as 40 per cent in some war plants. Absenteeism was increased by inability of workers to reach the plants.

The Philadelphia Strike

The Nation — New York, N. Y.

WE SEE two lessons in the Philadelphia transit strike. The first is that there is no point in wasting time on racial bigots. Neither patriotic appeal nor polite request by the military could get white Philadelphia transit workers to call off their ugly stay-out against an FEPC order giving eight Negroes a chance to work as motormen and bus drivers. The strikers began to go back to work only after the government showed that it meant business. We approve the steps the government took, and we hope they will be applied again, and more quickly, the next time there is an outbreak of this kind. The threat to cancel draft deferments of strikers, to bar them from other work under WMC orders, and to deny them unemployment compensation proved effective. The arrest of four strike leaders under the Smith-Connally act should prove a deterrent to similar demagogy in the future. It is time that backward elements in the ranks of labor as well as capital learned that racial discrimination in employment is contrary to the public policy and the ideals of this country, and that the government is prepared to punish those responsible for it. 8-12-44

The second lesson of the Philadelphia strike is that the sooner we take the FEPC out of the shadowy realm of existence under executive order and give it full statutory recognition, with power to enforce its decisions, the less trouble we shall have. The FEPC's present weakness invites disobedience and stimulates defiance. These Philadelphia transit workers have been working side by side with Negroes for years; the only difference is that Negroes will now be given a chance to qualify for some of the better paying jobs. We are not dealing in Philadelphia, as we might in the South, with ingrown attitudes and deep-rooted living patterns. We are dealing with the naked, greedy, and unashamed unwillingness of white workers to give Negro workers a break. That attitude requires no special understanding; it is racialism in its crassest form. Congress now has before it the Scantan bill to give the FEPC statutory authority and powers of enforcement and we hope Negroes and progressives will press for its enactment now, before the election, when they still have some bargaining power. 8-12-44

Finally *The Nation* urges Attorney General Biddle and U. S. Attorney Gleeson in Philadelphia to give the country a thoroughgoing grand jury investigation into all the circumstances of this peculiar strike. We call it peculiar because a majority of the employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Company had shown their own opposition to racialism by voting for the Transport Workers Union, CIO, several months ago in a union election. The TWU had compaigned on an anti-discrimination platform, in contradistinction to the "independent" union whose old contract with the company barred Negroes from the better jobs. The fact that the strike was led by old "independent" union officials and the readiness of the company's personnel director to give in to the strikers' anti-Negro demands provide grounds for suspecting that the racial issue was deliberately exploited to split the workers and hurt the CIO union. This strike delayed war production and hurt morale, and it disgraced the United States in the eyes of the world. We want to see it probed to the very bottom and we want to see those responsible in jail.

Urge Probe of Phila. Strike Ringleaders

Daily Worker — New York, N. Y.

8-7-44

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 6.—Arthur Huff Fauset today asked the Grand Jury to investigate what other interests besides the PTC management were behind the white supremacy plot.

Fauset is principal of the Douglas Singerly School, chairman of the United Peoples Action Committee, and active leader in the campaign for upgrading Negroes.

Fauset, in praising Transport Workers Union for requesting a Grand Jury investigation of the connection between the PTC management and the strike leaders, asked:

8-7-44

"How is it that Station WCAU and Station WIP broadcast speeches by strike leaders? Three ringleaders now under arrest were picked up Saturday night as they were leaving a broadcast studio. The fourth was arrested in Radio Station WCAU.

"Why did the executive board of the committee of 70 blast the CIO on Friday, and not mention a word about the strike ring leaders? (The committee of 70 is made up of bankers, lawyers and manufacturers.)

"Who was supplying the 'plenty of money' which strike leader James McMenamin boasted about, as quoted in the papers?"

Philadelphia Story

Post Washington, D.C. 8-7-44

The highly combustible racial situation which, since the beginning of the war, has been kindling in virtually every large industrial center of the country has again broken into a blaze, this time in Philadelphia. While the city remained paralyzed by the strike of virtually all motormen, conductors, bus drivers and maintenance employes of the Philadelphia Transportation Co., there were sporadic instances of violence in which nearly a dozen persons were hurt, but which had not reached the proportions of an actual race riot. 8-3-44

The strike was precipitated when as the result of a ruling by the Fair Employment Practices Committee, eight Negroes reported for work as street car operators. The strike apparently was altogether spontaneous and, as far as can be learned, none of the three labor unions whose memberships are involved, has had anything to do with it. In fact, the largest of them, the CIO Transport Workers' Union, the official bargaining agency, has denounced the strike, and has refused even to sit in conference with a committee chosen by the strikers. The management, however, has expressed its willingness to "talk with anyone and everyone in order to get transportation resumed." Meanwhile, there has been a tremendous curtailment in production in the numerous war industries in and near Philadelphia, the case has been certified to the War Labor Board, and at this writing it had begun to appear that the strike could be ended only by some form of presidential intervention.

The Fair Employment Practices Committee, over the protests of both the company and the union, had ordered that operative jobs should be opened to Negroes in the lower categories of employment in the system. The effect of this order would seem to be to give Negro employes preference over white applicants from outside the system, and it is evident that the strikers believe it would be merely a question of time until they were crowded out of their jobs by the influx of Negroes. In a published statement the strikers declared that they were seeking "to protect their jobs and their many years of service seniority." 8-3-44

Thus an issue which is still pending in Washington and in various other American cities appears to have reached the stage of showdown in Philadelphia. It is a labor crisis full of incendiary implications—not the least explosive of which would be recourse to military measures.

Strike Caused By Firing Of Negro Workers

Amsterdam News — New York, N.Y.

Twenty-three Lose Jobs In Tennessee Plant; 148 Vote Walkout In Protest

10-7-44

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (ANP)—The wholesale firing of Negro employes of the Anderson-Tully company here resulted in a wholesale walkout of the more than 350 Negro workers at the plant Thursday.

The trouble stems from the company's attitude toward organization efforts of the International Woodworkers of America, CIO, among the workers, it was disclosed.

Only a small minority of the Anderson-Tully workers are white.

The workers, through their representatives, kept pressing for a meeting in order that contractual arrangements with the company could be effected. When some of their number became impatient and advocated a strike, the majority voted a no strike action. The majority wanted to wait until the company complied with the NLRB and War Labor Board action. However, the sentiment of the majority shifted Wednesday night, 148 voting to strike and 47 voting no strike. The strike vote was the result of the firing of 23 workers.

of race, color, creed or nationality.

White Shoe Workers End Strike Over Race Worker

ST. LOUIS—White workers

35 - 1944

Love, Hate, Jobs, Men Force Big PTC Tieup

Philly's Shame Lays on Shoulders Of Jim McMenamin

By CARL DUNBAR LAWRENCE

PHILADELPHIA — This is the story of last week's transit strike . . . a report on our battle for economic freedom.

It is a story of love and hate, of men and jobs, of race and religion . . . the story of passion and prejudice . . . and how men become paralyzed by the fear of not having jobs in tomorrow's world.

J. McMenamin

You will also discover some organizational jealousy in this report and a hint here and there of political intrigue. These are the facts behind the facts . . . the real Philadelphia Story.

The Story In Brief

Let's start at the beginning. At 4 a. m., August 1, this city of 2,000,000 was suddenly faced with the fact that not a single bus, trolley or subway train was running. The Philadelphia Transportation Company's 6,000 white employes had gone on strike.

A committee, representing the strikers, announced that the leaders of the city's most serious strike in 30 years were James McMenamin, Frank P. Carney, former head of the PTC's old company union, William C. Dixon and Frank Compton.

During the first 20 hours of the dispute, Carney was the recognized spokesman for the strikers.

A Rabid Negro-Hater

When the "heat" was put on Carney, however, he turned the chairmanship over to "Big Jim" McMenamin, 43, and father of two children. McMenamin, rabid Negro-hater, became a PTC employee for the first time in 1923. He has served as motorman, conductor, yardman and high-speed line trainman. Two years of high school is about all he can claim in the way of education.

Whatever else is said about McMenamin, it is an established fact that "Big Jim" played his cards well until Uncle Sam came up with "three aces and two little deuces" to call McMenamin's bluff by sending 5,000 soldiers here to take over the transit system and operate it until a settlement was reached.

How It Started

According to McMenamin and Carney, the dispute started when FEPC officials of the War Manpower Commission refused to back down on their ruling that Negro employes of the PTC would be given the same opportunity to have and hold jobs (in any capacity) as the Irish, Jews, Poles and Germans.

Federal authorities didn't put it that way, of course, but Negroes employed by the PTC interpreted the ruling in that manner.

"Lewis Thompson, for instance, is one of the Negroes involved in this case. He has worked for PTC for 19 years and, though he'd be reluctant to say so, all his friends know that Thompson believes that only the Irish can hold jobs as trolley car operators, motormen and trainmen.

For that matter, though, Jews and Poles and Germans could feel the same way because seldom were they hired without an O.K. from the old Irish-controlled company union. The Carneys, McMenamins and Dixons have traditionally arranged for their sons, if there was no better job around, to follow in the footsteps of their fathers by becoming a trolley car operator.

Likewise, it was a custom for Negroes to clean up the car barns, wash the windows and empty the cuspidors. There was no cause for worry about those jobs being taken away because, it was conceded, nobody but a fool would stand for such treatment in a democracy.

Then came the depression, with workers representing every racial group on earth taking any job they could find.

Nothing Else To Do

White men wanted to be porters (there was nothing else to do) and Negroes went back to school to learn something new. That is the story the little fellows relate to newsmen and they usually back it up with irrefutable data to show that they are better off economically today than yesterday.

Let's get back to the strike. Tuesday at meetings in various sections of the city, "hell broke loose" that night and when it was all over 365 Negroes were in jail and two youths had been shot and critically wounded.

Local civic and political leaders got busy on Wednesday. They pleaded with the so-called hoodlums to stop breaking the show windows of neighborhood merchants.

Asked Tolerance By All

Wayne Hopkins, executive secretary of the Armstrong Association—an affiliate of the Urban League—asked everyone to be tolerant in an address over radio station WPEN.

Arthur Huff Fauset, director of the United People's Action Committee, was somewhat more militant. He declined to appease, refused to plead and ended up demanding more than Philadelphia's Mayor Bernard Samuel was willing to give.

The Elks with Magistrate Hobson Reynolds as spokesman, joined in the protest against the hoodlums. Magistrate Reynolds spoke over WFIL in presenting his plea.

Then, Dr. John K. Rice, a dentist, came forward with something really practical. He asked automobile owners to give every available seat to workers engaged in essential industry. Dr. Rice went "the time-killers" one better, he also offered to close up his office during the crisis to assist Navy Yard workers in getting to and from work.

Rain Halts Hell-Raisers

The violence subsided early Wednesday afternoon, and by 5 o'clock it was raining "cats and dogs." The hell-raisers didn't come out, mainly because it rained all night. So things seemed much calmer on Thursday.

Attempts at partial resumption of service petered out in two hours and the Federal Government was asked to step in and break the strike. The 5,000 whites on strike laughed and poked fun at the suggestion but, during an extraordinary conference in Washington, D. C., Government seizure of the PTC was recommended.

The Transport Workers Union (CIO), which is headed by City Councilman Michael Quill, of New York, went along with the suggestion and disclaimed all connection with the strikers.

A few weeks before, the CIO union had entered into negotiations for a new contract which purportedly would give the PTC employes $3,000,000 in raises.

"Nigger, Nigger" Tirade

McMenamin and his followers sneered at this and continued with their "nigger, nigger, nigger" tirade at every car barn in town. But on Friday, Uncle Sam seized everything the PTC owned and by noon Sunday the company's employes were returning to work. Meanwhile McMenamin and the other three ringleaders were being held in $2,500 bail each for allegedly violating the Smith-Connally anti-strike act.

Councilman Quill, in touch with the situation from the start, accused the PTC management of knowing all about what was characterized as a plot to undermine the war effort and, at a press conference in the TWO's headquarters last Sunday, asked these questions:

1. Why were the ringleaders given free use of company facilities to carry on their destructive work?

2. Why did Carney, whose long subservience to company officials, become an advocate and leader of the strike?

3. Why didn't the PTC call for police protection before the Army took over?

And why had the PTC used every possible stall and excuse to delay in failing to sign a contract with the Transport Workers Union?

Councilman Quill failed to mention, though, that the TWU, before Uncle Sam took over, had failed utterly to get its own members back on the job.

Finds Blood Thicker—

Your reporter discovered that to be the one big weakness in TWU's armor. TWU officials failed, in this instance, because "blood is thicker than water." McMenamin and his followers, obviously loaded with dough, had appealed to PTC workers purely on the basis of race.

In so many words, this was the line followed:

"Your fathers and brothers will return soon from the European theatre of the war. They'll need their jobs. They are Irish. They are Catholics. We have always had these jobs; we always will. Stick with us in this fight. Keep the niggers from driving street cars and buses. Make your union strong for yourself and be willing to die to uphold this principle, if it's necessary."

It was emotional, that's granted, but no one will deny that it was effective. The TWU was tied up in knots when Uncle Sam's troops marched into town.

Patient, Clear, Concise

Major General Philip Hayes directed Army activities. He was patient, clear and concise at all times. He gave the strikers every opportunity; insisting all the time that the Negro workers, involved in the dispute, would resume their training as scheduled by the orders of FEPC and the WMC.

The one big question asked by everyone when the news was circulated that Uncle Sam was in charge was this:

WILL THE EIGHT NEGROES OVER WHOM THE DISPUTE STARTED, BE PROMOTED ACCORDING TO ORIGINAL PLANS?

The civic, social, religious and political leaders gave varying answers. Ordinary working men and women were confident that President Roosevelt wouldn't gamble on nothing else but.

Incidentally, the Philadelphia resolution-makers met several times in secret, formed a new organization with Atty. Raymond Pace Alexander as the leader but that was about all. Reporters got a feeling that the masses aren't trusting some of their old leaders any more. They are suspicious, frustrated and somewhat "mad" at what they call Uncle Toms.

They love those they believe to be honest. They hate fakers. They are tired of the jealous spirit shown in the past by leaders of some of the civic and political organizations. They've been hearing about Roi Ottley's new book and, like their brothers and sisters in Harlem, they are looking for that "New World A-Coming."

LAY STRIKE TO DISCRIMINATION

Dailies Condemn Philadelphia Strike, Call for Approval on Upgrading of Negroes

PHILADELPHIA RECORD

We have never believed that 6,000 PTC employes suddenly, unanimously and voluntarily decided to strike against the orders of their company, against the orders of their union and against the

editorial comment on the Philadel-
transit system strike, the nation's
rful dailies condemned the strik-
and expressed approval of the up-
ng of Negroes which precipitated
strike. Some of the comments fol-

by Negroes. Tuesday
Monday and
were at the plant gates
n away Negro workers, al-
white men to pass.
Take Up Strike"
Butler said he believes the
nion will take up the mat-
the strikers who, he de-
are violating labor's
to participate in no work
ges.

held by the Negroes to be dis-
criminatory, was placed in effect
after a one-day sit-down strike
by the white drivers. He said
that about three weeks ago a Ne-
gro helper on one of the trucks
had been given precedence over a
white checker in riding in the
cab of a truck from a warehouse

Three hundred Negro employes of the Monsanto Chemical Co. plant at 300 Stor Work East St. Louis, manufactures of heavy chemicals, were still out Thursday on a strike started Saturday against what they termed discrimination by A. F. L. local No. 20082. At E. St. Louis It was said the chief reason Monsanto Plant for the strike was a new ruling forbidding Negroes to ride in truck cabs with white drivers. It has long been the practice at the plant for Negroes working on trucks to ride in the cab, however, only a few weeks ago this custom was changed.

a grievance committee with the plant manage-ment, the white men were turned down in their efforts to prevent Negroes from riding in truck cabs. Then, Summers said, the white drivers declined to work with Negroes until from riding with them. It was then, he, stated, that the rule was made effective.

Summers said that the Negroes are still waiting for a WLB decision on a previous discrimination case filed against the com-

wishes of their government.

Their strike was inspired by the underground, undercover activity of individuals who, day after day, poured race hatred into their ears. These men artfully aroused their emotions, lied to them about the seniority clause in their contract, misrepresented the government agencies which were striving to overcome the manpower shortage by upgrading Negro employes.

Who these undercover workers were is becoming apparent. What interests instigated their ugly activities, The Record is not yet prepared to say. They were probably NOT enemy agents. But they caused as much harm as a regiment of Nazi sabateurs. 8-11-44

There should be severe punishment for the investigators of this subversive propaganda and for the agents themselves.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER

If there must be federal seizure of Philadelphia's strike-bound transit system to remedy an intolerable situation it is profoundly to be hoped that it comes soon.

Federal action or not, the major imperative is to get the cars, trains and buses running and keep them running. Philadelphians and the national war effort have suffered enough through this unspeakable PTC walkout. It must be ended.

But government seizure and operation of the transit system, if such is required, will not solve the deeply disturbing issue from which the disgraceful walkout—clearly a violation of the War Labor Disputes act—stemmed. Plant seizure in wartime strikes has consistently proved only a stop-gap.

The car and bus operators who stopped work without warning permitted race prejudice to overrule every other consideration, including their duty to the Philadelphia public and to the nation.

They disregard completely the fact that, with the aid of Philadelphia war plants and the Philadelphia navy yard, the United States is now battling on a global front for the liberty and dignity of individual men and women of every race and color. 8-11-44

In walking out because a few Negroes were upgraded by the PTS in a commendable effort to eliminate racial discrimination the employes disavowed the cause of freedom for which their country, even their own sons and brothers, are fighting.

What did they hope to gain by such a thoroughly unjustifiable act of sabotage on the home front? Rescinding by the PTC of its agreement to remove the color line in the training and advancement of workers? But the agreement to give Negroes fair play, however progressive and praiseworthy, was in compliance with federal orders. No man or group of men is greater than the government.

Whatever the opinion of the car workers regarding the War Manpower Commission's ruling and the Fair Employment Practice Committee's directive to the company concerning Negro employes, they had no justification for their shockingly un-American, undemocratic reprisal. 8-11-44

Furthermore, whether or not the WMC order was well timed has no bearing whatever on the issue now. The plain fact is that a group of employes placed their own narrow, selfish, prejudiced demands above the needs of their country and of their fellow men.

With what result? With the result that the output of war goods required for victory over the cut-throat Nazis and Japs was reduced, thousands of persons inconvenienced and Philadelphia business sharply slashed.

With the result, also, that such humanitarian essentials as blood donations to save the lives of our brave service men were cut down because donors could not get to Red Cross stations.

With the result, moreover, that Philadelphia, City of Brotherly Love, has been smeared from one end of the country, to the other with the stigma of racial prejudice and lawlessness.

This is not the time to go into complicated negotiations dealing with racial and other issues. There will be time later for calm, reasoned consideration of such matters. The first necessity is to get the cars, trains, and buses running.

End this outrageous strike—now! 8-11-44

NEW YORK TIMES

If our enemies had been asked what they would like to have happen in Philadelphia, they could hardly have thought of anything better for them and worse for us than what did happen there, beginning early Tuesday morning. Robots or airplane bombs would have united the people of Philadelphia.

In a common grief and anger they would have worked harder than ever to win the war. The actual occurrence separated and frustrated them. The working time of thousands of men and women in war factories was wasted.

White American employes of the Philadelphia Transportation company, went on strike, in defiance of public interest and public policy, in contemptous disregard of the responsibilities they had knowingly assumed, in order to prevent the promotion of dark-skinned American employes. 8-11-44

The employers in this instance were acting not on their own initiative, but on that of the federal government, anxious to make full use of available manpower and to prevent discrimination on account of race. The issue of seniority for men promoted from the shops to the operation of street cars might have been peaceably settled through the War Labor board.

Surely neither the WLB nor any other federal agency would have ordered the Philadelphia Transportation company to give new employes or newly promoted employes seniority over old employes or over former employers now in the armed services. It is apparent that the basic issue was not seniority but color. And in opportunities for jobs which they are qualified to fill, it is the public policy of the United States to put Negro and white men on the same footing. 8-11-44

N. Y. DAILY NEWS

No doubt some way will be found of restoring the traveling facilities of the city so that war production schedules can be resumed. That is important, but there is another aspect to the strike that is much wider in significance. That is the rather frightening flare of race prejudice that might be expected in Mobile, Ala., but not in Philadelphia.

It is another demonstration of the fact that the Negro problem is one of the most acute facing this country, on a par with postwar planning, what to do with Germany and all the other tangles for which no one has yet formulated any reasonable solution.

There are probably two Negro problems in the country, as far as that goes—one in the South and another in the North. Southerners always brush off any discussion of the Negro with the smug assurance that "we know how to take care of our darkies; they are happy down here and we don't want any interference from you Yankees." And the Negroes in the South remain the deeply submerged portion of the population. 8-11-44

A good many southern Negroes have moved North in recent years, especially since the war started, to find more money and a freer life. It is not likely they have found much more freedom.

They do not have to obey Jim Crow laws in public conveyances and that may comfort them, but, all in all, they probably have found life in the North no better than in the South.

They are confined to segregated districts where rents are high and living conditions unhealthy. Their chances for employment are limited to service jobs and generally menial positions. Their educational privileges may be better, but they soon find that education isn't much help to them. Many a college-trained Negro is a Pullman porter or an elevator operator because he has found that white men will not give him a job for which he is qualified.

In extreme youth the Negro child may not be aware of the situation that his dark skin places him in, but as he moves into adolescence, he sees that he's different, and that life is going to be hard for him. 8-11-44

This, we think, is the reason why there are muggers and gangs of hoodlums in Harlem and elsewhere — the youngsters are turned bitter at an early age when they see that the chances are against them. They develop a what-the-hell attitude because they know they have little to lose.

There are some 13,000,000 Negroes in this country. Their ancestors didn't ask to be brought here. They obviously can't be sent back to Africa now. And the breach between the races seems to be growing.

We have heard of no way in which this problem can be solved quickly if it can be solved at all, without a complete change of attitude on the part of the white population which is unlikely.

Gunnar Myrdal, the Swedish social scientist who came here for the Carnegie Corporation to make a study as an outside observer of what is called "the least clean corner of the national household," produced a book called "An American Dilemma; the Negro Problem and Modern Democracy." It is a thorough work and we may be presumptuous in boiling the findings down to this: 8-11-44

American idealism and American practice do not agree. We proclaim equality loudly but do not permit it to the Negro. We tell ourselves the Negro is after our womanhood; what the Negro really wants is a good job.

UN-COVERING WASHINGTON

World—Memphis, Tenn. 8-8-44

By HARRY S. McALPIN

WHITE HOUSE CORRESPONDENT For Atlanta Daily World & N.N.P.A.

A Shocking Picture

THAT WAS A shocking picture, the thousands of white Americans—in the City of Brotherly Love (Philadelphia)—tying up the war production of the second most critical and important area in the country because 8 Negroes were being trained as car and bus operators to help speed war workers to their vitally important jobs.

It must have been a shocking picture to the Chinese, our colored allies in the Pacific theater.

It must have caused the already disillusioned and confused peoples of India to scratch their heads and wonder what kind of intermediary America would make in its relations with Mother England.

The shock to China, India, and all our other Allies of color no doubt produced an effect of confusion of doubt. 8-8-44

The same shock came to real lovers of democracy in America—particularly Negroes and other liberals. But for them it should clear up confusion and chart the path toward necessary precautions and safeguards in the approaching period of reconversion.

If men in the very midst of battle, will snatch the guns from the hands of their own sons and brothers rather than have them loaded by Negroes, what will happen when the war is over? What will be the outcome when the war emergency removes the excuse for use of troops to force a handful of Americans in strategic positions to be civil, patriotic and democratic? 8-8-44

It is one thing to say our laws include All Americans. It is another story altogether in practice unless safeguards, prohibitions (with Penalties) against discrimination because of race, creed or color are included, and unless the enforcement of the law is policed by persons with a sympathetic understanding of the problems involved and the courage to act.

Already the G. I. Bill of Rights has become law with innumerable loopholes for the states to "rob" returning Negro veterans of the rights and privileges they have earned by risking their lives and limb for the preservation (?) of Democracy. 8-8-44

Before Congress now is legislation to create a peace-time economy. Nothing has been heard of any safeguards to after the reconversion of this nation to a peace-time economy. Nothing has been heard of any safeguards to after a 12-hour walkout by the Packard plant here last week protesting [illegible] Negroes upgraded to three Negroes upgraded to [illegible] department [illegible] because they [illegible] by resentful whites.

4,000 Negro strikers return to work [illegible] DETROIT—The [illegible] rule of war workers [illegible]

35j-1944

Upgrading Of Negroes Continues

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.
8-12-44

"Work Or Fight" Order Issued; No Major Race Riot

PHILADELPHIA — The Army got tough here over the weekend, took over the Philadelphia Transportation System, put an immediate end to the unauthorized transit employees strike with a dramatic "work or fight" order, put every Philadelphia carrier into service with armed guards, and gave government-backed guarantees that the eight Negro trainees who had been elevated to platform jobs would be continued in those jobs and that the upgrading of Negroes would be extended.

When appeals to the patriotism of the strikers in this second largest U. S. armament arsenal failed, Major General Philip Hayes, who was placed after President Roosevelt had issued an executive order instructing the Army to move in on the transport-paralyzed city of two million, took a series of dramatic steps which showed, beyond any doubt, that the Army was prepared to take drastic action to provide transportation for the three quarters of a million vital defense workers in this area and to end the stoppages that had occurred in crucial defense industries.

Meanwhile the strikers were bluntly told that they had lost the strike and that the policy of upgrading Negro workers to operating jobs would not be changed under the Army control.

DRASTIC STEPS

8-12-44

The Army took the following steps to insure adeuqate transportation: it issued a "work or be fired" ultimatum; arrested, fired and held under bond four strike leaders; threatened to arrest and fire any others who refused to operate their vehicles; refused to grant work referrals to striking workers; issued a statement that no fired workers would be allowed to get a job for the duration of the war; asked the Selective Service boards to reclassify all strikers and to call for inductions of those in the age brackets between 18 and 37.

8-12-44

Moved into the city over 15,000 troops from nearby Army camps with instructions to take over traffic control, keep down racial or other disorders, and to ride every Philadelphia carrier to protect the operator and keep the carrier moving; instructed some troops in the operation of the carriers so that troops could drive any carriers which were not manned at the time of the strike deadline; and issued a statement to the strike leaders which clearly said that the War Manpower Commission's directive on the upgrading of Negroes would be followed up by the Army while it controlled the system; and finally called for a grand jury investigation of the strike, its leaders, and of the allegedly suspicious connections between the strike leaders and the Philadelphia Transportation Company's officials.

8-12-44

SUSPECT COMPANY

It was felt by many observers that the company was involved in a suspicious manner with the promotion of the strike because it had objected to the upgrading of its Negro employees and had declined to cooperate with the FEPC directive until the War Manpower Commission had issued a direct order calling for the full utilization of all available manpower in this key arsenal of material.

The FBI after an investigation of the strike background and of the peculiar circumstances which found the strikers using the company's barns for meeting places and using the company's lights and other facilities to harangue workers against returning to their jobs, ordered a grand jury investigation of the strike and suggested that certain aspects of the relations between the strike leaders and company officials were in need of clarification.

8-12-44

After the Army's final ultimatum, which followed peaceful but unavailing appeals by Army, Navy, War production, and union officials, all but 13 of the 6,000 employees returned to work and began on Sunday to operate the trolley, bus, subway, and elevated lines on a fairly regular scheduled. On Monday morning, at 12:01 a. m., which was the Army's deadline, full transportation had been restored after five days of hectic paralysis in the transit situation here.

The strike, condemned by officials of the CIO Transport Workers Union and unauthorized, was apparently led by four leaders who had been connected, at one time, with the company's own union—later defeated in an election which was won overwhelmingly by the CIO affiliate—and who were known to have the sympathetic ear of the company officials in any move which would embarras the CIO union and set the stage for the defeat of that union in another PTC employees election which is coming up soon.

8-12-44

ARRESTED LEADERS

These four leaders, all arrested over the weekend, were: James H. McMenamin chairman of the strikers' "general emergency committee;" Frank P. Carney president of the PTC employees union unaffiliated, which formerly represented the company's employees; William C. Dixey and Frank Thompson, who were identified as leaders of the strike. These men were arrested when the government involved the Smith-Connally anti-strike legislation.

McMenamin was arrested Saturday at a local radio station just as he was preparing to go on the radio with a statement telling the strikers that they would have to return to work "at the point of the bayonet of the United States Army" but that their original objective would be sought at another time. He was not permitted to speak and was arrested, along with Dixey on the spot. All four leaders were placed under $2,500 bond and three of them were unable to raise the bond on Saturday and spent the night in jail.

8-12-44

Local observers believe that the strike was inspired by men with anti-American sympathies and the motives behind the strike are expected to receive careful attention from the grand jury. It is not believed that 6,000 transit workers in Philadelphia would delay the date of victory for allied armies depending on the war production in this second most important U. S. production area just to keep eight Negroes from getting jobs as street car and bus operators, unless their emotions were inflamed by men with Fascist inclinations.

8-12-44

NO MAJOR RIOTS

The racial disturbances which were threatened throughout the week never materialized. Thirteen persons were injured in minor clashes which occured on the first and second days of the strike but since that time, the people of Philadelphia remained remarkably well disciplined and interracial cooperation existed on a broad scale.

Efforts to incite the population to mass riots failed although the people were irritated by the inconvenience imuposed on them by the strikers. Defense production dropped off considerably in all of the many industries in the Philadelphia area and the war was delayed by the loss of a half million man hours of work by the strike. Despite the fact that these losses were announced in the appeals to the patriotism of the white operators, they were not moved until the Army said "work or be fired" and "work or fight." Several hundred occupational deferments were cancelled by draft boards as they first began to put the order into effect.

8-12-44

No incidents attended the resumption of transportation. The strike began at 4 a. m., last Tuesday morning and although there were brief resumptions of transportation on one or two lines in mid-week, that resumption was short lived and for the most part of the five days, absolutely no PTC transports operated.

Some vandalism was observed with both whites and colored being involved. A few minor clashes occured but those were not considered to be any more serious than they would have been on any hot day when two million people were stranded without transportation and milling around in the streets of a crowded metropolis.

900 Strike in Chi, Are American Protest Upgrading

Baltimore Afro

CHICAGO. (ANP)—Because A. Morgan was upgraded to group leader to supervise a mixed crew of workers, 900 white employees of the Pullman Standard Car Manufacting Company's Calumet ship yards walked off their jobs last week.

12-12-44

Officials of the plant, which produces invasion barges, declared that such appointments were not new and that the upgrading of Morgan, one of the most capable of the plant's 8,000 workers, 17 per cent of whom are colored, would stand.

Attempt Mediation

Meanwhile, officials of the United Steel Workers' local, CIO, were joined by Navy officials, the U.S. Conciliation Service and the local FEPC branch, under regional director, Elmer Henderson, in an effort to iron out the difficulties.

Since the plant is not accused of discrimination of employment opportunities, the dispute is beyond the FEPC's jurisdiction, Mr. Henderson said. The wave of anti-colred sentiment is credited to pickets who have been active near

Liberty Bell Rung; Ringer's Mind Tested

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.
8-12-44

PHILADELPHIA— (ANP) —Charles A. White, 38-year-old Frankford arsenal employe who hurled a one-pound weight last Thursday at the Liberty Bell, shouting, "Liberty Bell, that's a lot of bunk" was held under police guard at Philadelphia General Hospital, to await a court-ordered mental examination.

White's act occurred during the disturbance following last week's transit strike, when 6,000 white transportation workers walked out, because eight colored workers were about to be made motormen and conductors.

8-12-44

Asked the reason for his action, White said that he hurled the weight at the Bell, "to attract attention of Government authorities to this transportation tie-up."

Strike Loss $3,000,000

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.
8-12-44

When the smoke had cleared away from the battle of the PTC, it was estimated that stores, movies and taprooms had lost a total of approximately $3,000,000 in gross revenues.

With the downtown department

Where Philly Youth Was Shot

Two witnesses and the father of Franklin Howard, 13, of 2336 W. Master Street, examine scene of the youth's mysterious shooting, Thursday night, on the step of Eastern Star Baptist Church, Twenty-third and Master Streets. John Fortune, 28, of 2232 Master Street, points to spot where one of three bullets struck, while Edward Howard, the boy's father (left) and Benny Robinson, 18, look on.

8-12-44

and boys were sitting on the steps of the Eastern Star Baptist Church, Twenty-third and Master Streets, when the car pulled up.

Failed to Get Number

"All right, get off this corner," the two men in car were quoted as saying. Fortune and Robinson said that as they hesitantly started to leave, three shots rang out. The vehicle sped away before they could recognize the license number, they said.

A friend of the family took Franklin to the hospital, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Howard, parents of the boy said. Mr. Howard, an employee of the Philadelphia Electric Company, said his absence from work on Friday to visit his son at the hospital was the first since the trolley strike.

Meet The ... —Philadelphia PTC Strike ... Ringleaders

8-12-44

Investigation by the Grand Jury with the possibility of a $5,000 fine and a year's imprisonment faces the four men who were arrested, charged with being the leaders of the strike which halted the PTC and paralyzed the city's war industries last week.

Although no charges of conspiracy have been brought against them, it is probable that such a charge may be brought and its penalty is double that stated.

Frank P. Carney, former president of the ousted PRT Employees Union, serving four terms as its leader, is the only one of the four men not on the PTC payroll. He has been opposed to the upgrading of colored workers from the start and headed a delegation to Washington several months ago to oppose the directive issued by the FEPC to upgrade and employ colored workers in the platform positions.

8-12-44

He lives at 3429 E street and was a conductor. Carney is 53.

Loudest of the ringleaders was James H. McMenamin of 13th street near Butler, who repeatedly insisted that "this is a white man's job and no Negroes are going to get it."

An operator on the Broad Street subway line, McMenamin, has been employed by the company for 19 years.

William Dixey or Dixon as he is sometimes called, is 26 and lives on Erdick street near VanKirk.

For the two years that he has been in the company's employ, he has operated a trolley.

32-year-old Frank Thomson is said to be the most vicious of the group as far as colored workers are concerned.

A PTC employee for about three years, he came into the news in March when three colored men and two women robbed him on his trolley beating him into unconsciousness.

While employed at the Southern Depot he engaged in numerous fracases with colored workers, in one of which it is reported, he rendered one arm of his opponent permanently useless.

8-12-44

He was transferred away from Southern to the Luzerne bar where he had been barred from operating a trolley on any line which passed through colored territory.

He lives on 10th street near Pike.

All of the men were notified, when they reported for work Monday, that they were fired, following their release, on $2500 bail from Moyamensing Prison where they had been taken after their arrest Saturday night.

Auto Workers Strike After Negro Raises

Union Urges Return of Packard Workers Who Took Part in Walkout

DETROIT (ANP)—"The union will not tolerate any violation of its constitution, which calls for fair treatment regardless of race," George F. Addes, secretary-treasurer of the CIO-UAW international union, declared last week as he urged 39,000 persons employed at the Packard Motor Car company to return to work. The plant closed down its entire works on Wednesday.

Like the strike which tied up Philadelphia transportation last summer, because a few Negro workers were upgraded, polishers at the Packard plant are said to have become angered when several Negro workers were elevated to positions as metal polishers.

Until the polishers return the plant cannot operate, a company spokesman said.

The spokesman described the dispute as one which involved a refusal of the polishers to "abide by the union's contract."

Work For Settlement

International representatives of the United Automobile Workers (CIO), which holds a working contract with the Packard Motor Car Co., has endeavored to settle the dispute ever since the polishers went on strike Friday night, the company's spokesmen declared.

Truckmen Strike Over New Orleans Union "Dictator"

NEW ORLEANS, (ANP)—Three big firms have been pinched by striking Negro truck drivers and leaders who walked out last week in protest against officials of their Teamsters Union. The firms are J. J. Clarke Company, Inc., J. Watts Kearney and Sons, and Jahncke Service, Inc.

Several hundred drivers walked out of the Delta Shipyards last week because three of their members were fired for refusing to pay $100 increase in union dues. The union men claim that the increase was put into effect against their wishes and was out of proportion to the wages they receive.

Others Join

Other drivers and leaders not connected with the shipyards said they were in sympathy with the Delta workers and joined the strike with them. They refused to transport any building materials.

Object of much of the union trouble is Manny Moore, white, recently appointed president of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, AFL Local 270. Moore, who was recently discharged from the navy, is charged with ousting Negro officials of the union. Two separate peace bonds, signed by Carroll Bolling and J. D. Wilson, have been issued against Moore, who is characterized as dictatorial and ruthless.

Three principal points seem to loom as the basic cause for the strike that is said to have stopped vital war production at the Pullman plant. They are:

- protest against the company's firing of the unnamed white worker;
- upgrading of Bennie Morgan in violation of seniority rules; and
- refusal to fill a third supervisory vacancy.

Public officials, including Mayor Edward J. Kelly, were asked to intervene to bring the strike to an end. Settlement of the strike leaves Morgan intrenched in his position as group leader of white and Negro workers but an effort made by the union to adjust the matter of the fired white worker.

12-23-44

Workers Say Race Hate Strike Company Inspired

CHICAGO—Blame for the seven-day strike at the Pullman Standard Car Manufacturing company was tossed back into the laps of company officials last week by workers and union leaders as an attempt to smash local 2928, CIO United Steel Workers union, as the so-called race hate strike involving 900 white workers came to an end. Sweeping charges of attempts to foment racial strife as well as of union busting were leveled at Pullman officials as investigation of the walkout was ing made by high publ officials and union leaders.

Characterizing ... called race ... inspired, both workers and union officials declared that the company knows seniority exceeded that of the Negro.

35j-1944

Jury Report on Transit Strike Probe

Afro American
Baltimore, Md.

The following is the complete text of a Federal grand jury report on its investigation of the Philadelphia Transportation Company strike in August.

This grand jury has been charged to study carefully the background of the strike which occurred Tuesday, August 1, 1944, to make known the results of its study and to point out the violations of Federal laws which appear.

10-14-44

The members of this jury, with the careful help of the special assistants of the attorney general and the court, have given painstaking attention to many phases of this disatstrous stoppage of work in the Philadelphia Transportation Co. and on the evidence presented hereby express our findings:

The time of this event is in the midst of a frightful world war when the rights of man and of nations have been threatened by two nations boasting a superior power to rule and to dominate the entire world.

For Equal Opportunity

The scene is Philadelphia, City of Brotherly Love, the center of a district of prime importance in the efforts of the nations allied to conquer those powers and to preserve the rights of man and of the nations; the scene also in 1776 of the Continental Congress and its Declaration of Independence with its memorable statements: "that all men are created equal" and "that they are endowed with certain inalienable rights that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

10-14-44

It seems quite clear that, so far as there was flame or fire in the strike, the chief fuel therefor came from resentment over the upgrading of colored men to "platform" positions such as none of their race had heretofore held. The members of this jury wish it to be known that they agree entirely with the viewpoint which holds for this race the right to higher position and wage wherever they so qualify on the same basis as fellow employees of the white race.

Majority Opposed to Strike

We are pleased, therefore, to express our conviction from the evidence that the great majority of the employees were not interested to strike on this basis.

The question of colored men being upgraded goes back several years. More recently the Fair Employment Practice Committee issued a directive December 1943, which required the Philadelphia Transportation Co. to upgrade colored men to "platform positions" where qualified.

The bargaining unit at the time, the P.T.C. Employees Union through its officers had objected to this directive.

10-14-44

A fruitless hearing on this question in which Philadelphia Transportation Co., the Employees' Union, Fair Employment Practice Committee, War Manpower Commission and a Congressional committee participated occurred in Washington, D.C., on January 11, 1944.

Only 1776 Signed Protest

During this hearing a paper was presented which read thus: "Gentlemen: We, the white employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. refuse to work with colored men as motormen, conductors, operators and station trainmen."

The names signed numbered 1776. The total number of employees at the time was 10,606. There was no letdown on the directive and the Employees' Union offcials continued their attitude of opposition.

In March, 1944, the Transport Workers' Union, a CIO affiliate, by an intense campaign had completed organization among the employees in sufficient strength to win an election under the Pennsylvania State Labor Relations Board and to become the "bargaining agent" with the company.

CIO Forbids Bias

The Transport Workers' Union had "a non-discrimination" clause in its constitution which brought further discussion of colored men being upgraded.

10-14-44

A general contract with the new bargaining agent had been under consideration for several months but was not signed by the company until August 9, eight days after the beginning of the strike.

Next a general directive of the War Manpower Commission July 1, 1944, made it necessary for the company to comply with the Fair Employment Practice Committee directive and to proceed in the upgrading of colored workers.

8 Qualify for Jobs

On July 7 the Company posted notice of the opportunity for colored workers to qualify for "platform" positions. Eleven of the 29 applicants passed the qualifying tests and eight were to take instruction. This aroused further discussion.

One week of training under an instructor and on an otherwise empty car was to precede actual handling of a car in regular traffic as a motorman. Instruction was to begin on August 1 and the regular operation of cars by colored men on August 8.

Newspapers (not The Inquirer) on July published articles which gave the incorrect impression that colored motormen would start regular service on the next day, Tuesday, August 1.

10-14-44

"Rabid Leaders"

This incited the small number of objectors to hasty action. A meeting was called for that Monday night, July 31, at the Allegheny depot at which about seventy-five were present. There were rabid leaders and there was considerable excitement.

From this meeting groups went out late in the night to urge at the various depots that men on Tuesday, August 1, report "sick." Such action had been suggested earlier and seems to have been copied from a similar strike which occurred in Washington, D.C.

Sick Alibi Much Abused

The jury finds that two factors greatly assisted the plans of the comparatively small number who really seriously opposed the employment of colored men in platform positions.

10-14-44

It seems a weakness in Philadelphia Transportation Co. management that the permission to report "sick" and to be "off" for the term of illness had become a much abused term used for any purpose where the employed preferred not to 'work.

A second factor is the difficulty in a car barn which results when once the regular order of car movements has been broken.

When a number of men have declined to go out the tracks are clogged by the unused cars and it is difficult for a later reportee to take out his car bus or train.

Not Widely Planned

This was no widely planned strike. The rank and file of the employees knew nothing about any such plan. The few men returning from runs late Monday, July 31, or early Tuesday, August 1, learned of the meeting at Allgheny and of the instructions to report "sick."

Those reporting for work on Tuesday learned largely through difficulty in finding transportation or from fellow employees when they arrived at their respective depots.

10-14-44

Management Blamed

It appears evident that proper planning beforehand on the part of the management for such an emergency and quick action by responsible officers might well have turned the incipient strike into a forceful display of employee loyalty to their company and to their public duty.

There was present among the employees that curiously weak social attitude which makes the right thinking man hesitate to stand right when he sees his fellows act wrongly. Fear of the term "scab" was present. Strong leaders were lacking.

There is evidence that a number of employees including occasional Transport Workers' Union leaders, did their best to urge men to go to work and were themselves, though willing, not enabled to go out on their runs. Others feared violence and so refrained from work.

The city was fortunate in not having worse results in the form of rioting. This was due largely to the lack of strong feeling on the part of most of the idle employees.

10-14-44

Mayor, Police Given Credit

Citizens of the city in general accepted in fine spirit the many inconveniences and serious losses which resulted from the absence of transportation facilities.

Certain civic societies and welfare agencies served to repress tendencies toward ill will and violence. Due credit is owed to the Mayor for his action in closing the liquor shops and taprooms and to the director of police, his officers and men, for their efficient service.

In the reorganization of the Philadelphia Transportation Company which went into effect in 1941 careful study had been embodied to make the charter a model for great municipal corporations of its type.

Included among its provisions was a representation of four citizens includih gthe Mayor on the board of directors.

The jury regrets the failure of the officials of the Philadelphia Transportation Company to take firm hold on the situation after information on the signing of a petition and on the proposed meeting in Allegheny barn had been brought to their attention on Monday afternoon, July 31.

10-14-44

Their general attitude after the strike began seems best expressed in the weak excuse—"What's the use?" Actually on the first day of the strike a prominent official expressed it thus to the head of the War Manpower Commission: "It's your baby and it's on your lap."

Further steps follow a pattern recently somewhat common. Before midnight on the first day of the strike representatives of the War Manpower Commission and Fair Employment Practice Committee met with the Mayor and agreed on this statement: "Have concluded that nothing effective can be done locally to end the transit stoppage." The next step was appeal to Presidential Order and Army Occupation of the properties.

Union Feeling Rampant

It is necessary to state that there was much antagonism in the strike between representatives of four different labor organizations but chiefly between members of the former Employees' Union and of the new Transport Workers' Union.

Union feeling was rampant among the leaders. This included members of the new "bargaining agent."

10-14-44

Factors Involved

The intense drive for members, the fact that election of officers had not been held, the loss of initiative in deciding local problems, the taking of orders from a so-called international officer representing the central organzation, the large increase in dues, the failure at the time to see any benefits from the new contract, the impression that the "no discrimination" clause of the CIO was based more on desire for numbers and income than on good will toward the colored workers —each of these had its part in the spirit manifested in the strike.

The members of the jury are interested to note that country wide we have made a long step away from the company union which might, with the right motivation on both sides have seemed the ideal method of relations in our industrial life.

We are interested also to raise the question whether our country can safely afford to leave wide open the way for a great organization to develop in the United States a strong central power and government reaching its tentacles into every community of any size in the tion seemingly subversive of the principles first declared and land and in its principles of ac- later constituted in this city of Philadelphia as the basis of life and government of our great Republic.

10-14-44

30 Indicted

After the Army took hold of all transportation property late on Thursday, August 3, any further incitement toward continuation of the strike became a violation of the Smith-Connally Act.

The jury, after a careful survey of the evidence, finds true bills against thirty such offenders.

It is our opinion that all of these individuals are to a more or less degree victims of larger forces under the influence of which they had been affected.

Dr. Tobias stated that he was positive that "Negroes and whites like will indicate their approval of the course pursued in Philadelphia by continuing to give their wholehearted backing to the administration and the organized labor movement generally as they function as effectively as in this case."

The YMCA executive characterized the strike as a "vicious attempt to maintain a caste system in employment."

Mr. Hillman declared that the

FDR's Firm, Prompt Handling of Philly 'Hate Strike' Hailed

Former Houston Star

NEW YORK — Negro and CIO leaders this week hailed President Roosevelt's prompt, firm handling of the Philadelphia transit tieup.

Dr. Channing H. Tobias, National CIO executive, Sidney Hillman

President, by his prompt action, indicated "his steadfast opposition to un-American forces which seek to disrupt steady national progress toward a future of full and true democracy for all Americans, regardless of race, color or creed."

Others Speak

Other statements commending the President were issued by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, executive director of the Mayor's Committee on Racial Relations, Chicago; Michael J. Quill, Transport Workers Union president; Roscoe Dunjee, editor and publisher of the Black Dispatch, Oklahoma City newspaper, and W. T. Andrews, New York State assemblyman.

Negroes Ejected From Mo. Pacific Diner, Waiters Strike In Protest

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

PALESTINE, Texas. — (Special to The Call) —Service in a north-bound Missouri Pacific dining car was halted near here Saturday when the waiters refused to serve civilian passengers following the ejection of two Negro revenue passengers from the diner by two white civilians.

According to official reports the two Negro men entered the diner and were ordering their meals when two white passengers seated nearby asked that they be ejected from the diner.

The Negro passengers refused to leave the diner whereby the white men took matters in their own hands and bodily ejected them from the diner, but not the train.

The waiters immediately ceased serving meals to other passengers following this incident.

After being told by the dining car chef to either work or prepare to leave the train when it arrived in Palestine, they agreed among themselves to serve only military personnel and not civilians.

8-18-44

Further trouble was expected and railroad men wired ahead to Palestine and a group of policemen met the train but contrary to their expectations no further trouble was caused.

The train on which the incident occured conducts daily travel between Houston and St. Louis.

W. A. Gall, dining car superintendent for the road, with headquarters in Houston, is said to be investigating the incident.

It is not an unusual incident for Negroes to be served on dining cars operating in Texas.

Argus—St. Louis, Mo.

Negro Motormen Stay In Training

8-11-44

(By Eustace Gay, Managing Editor, Philadelphia Tribune for Continental Features).

PHILADELPHIA—The strike which began unannounced at four a.m. Tuesday, is now known to have been instigated by Frank Carney, head of Company Union of the PRT Employees Union. This union, starting under defeat administered a few months ago by the CIO in a contest to be bargaining agent, has used this means of gaining their point and embarrassing the CIO Union in its negotations with the company for a new contract.

Carney and Associates had a contract with PTC in which there was a clause which the union, with the company's consent, interpreted as being against upgrading of colored employees as motormen, bus drivers, conductors and cashiers and against employment of either colored men or women not in employ of the company for such positions. The union and the company joined in this contention at a FEPC hearing held a month ago and at a session of Congressional Committee in Washington, D. C. with Congressman Howard Smith of Virginia presiding.

Agitators Stir Strife 8-11-44

An FEPC directive to hire colored men and women as motormen, bus drivers, cashiers was ignored by the company. Three weeks ago the WMC ordered the use of all available men, regardless of color, creed or national origin and in keeping with this order, the company began last Sunday in the training of eight colored men. In the time that elapsed, between the issuance of NWC order and the company putting it into effect, Carney and Associates with or without knowledge of company, used carbarns to address workers inflaming them and telling them to keep Negroes in their place and that jobs sought belonged to white men. Doctor A. A. Mitten, leading PTC official, when it was called to his attention that Carney had engaged in this kind of activity, professed to be unable to police every barn or to keep the people from saying what they thought. 8-11-44

However, on Wednesday, after it seemed that the Army would be called in, an order was issued that all employees not working must leave the barn. Unfortunately, hoodlums, principally in North Philadelphia, made unwarranted and unjustified attacks upon merchants, places of business and individuals, damaging property and engaging in acts of vandalism.

Leading colored citizens appealed to colored people to refrain from violence of any kind. The Mayor could not be reached on Tuesday. Telephone calls for him or his secretary found unavailable, when we asked to be furnished with any statements made by the Mayor. The closing and shortest paragraph of a three paragraph statement was read to us on the telephone by a woman aide. In a longer statement by Mayor Bernard Samuels, published in the Daily Press, he professed not to know the reasons for the strike. Months ago the Mayor was notified of the fight to have colored employees of PTC upgraded and other colored men and women hired by PTC, for positions not hitherto held. The Mayor is an exofficio member of the Board of Directors of PTC. What he did, if anything, to help find a solution, is not clear. In addition, an Interracial Committee appointed by him following the Detroit riot has done nothing and has been refused money with which to work. The situation is intense. The WMC, WLB and the FEPC are standing pat on use of colored men. Leading daily newspapers have condemned strikers in vigorous language. Concensus of opinion is that nothing will happen when workers return to work and training of colored men continues. There is very definite feeling however that if the strike is settled on basis of refusing to upgrade colored PTC employees or to hire colored men referred to PTC by uses, there will be trouble. 8-11-44

NEW YORK—After a two-day personal investigation of Transportation strike hostilities in Philadelphia, Assistant NAACP secretary, Roy Wilkins, wired Attorney General Francis Biddle: "I wish to urge strongly that the Department of Justice through the Federal Bureau of Investigation make a special examination into the activities of James McMenamin, Don Lasher and Frank P. Carney, who are leaders of the so-called committee representing the strikers. Statements attributed to Carney by Philadelphia papers of August 1 and 2 seem to be clearly incitement to riot.

Philly Strikers Go 'Underground' To Carry On

Journal + Guide
Norfolk, Va.
8-19-44

Threats Aimed At Workers Who Broke Strike

Special to Journal and Guide

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—As the first Negro began operating a tram car on a regular passenger run here Monday, the Army withdrew all guards from trolleys, buses, and subway and elevated trains. But all was not well among the workers of the Philadelphia Transit System.

Observers feared that the strike, which brought the nation's second largest industrial area to a six-day standstill, had been broken by prompt U. S. Army action, but that the strikers had gone "underground."

First evidence that the strikers were still determined to pursue their plan of keeping Negroes from upgraded jobs was seen in alleged actions against the persons who first moved to break the strike — actions by many rank and file workers as well as supervisors.

WOMAN QUITS 8-19-44

Mrs. Dorothy Hibbs, an attractive 21-year-old blonde, who drove the first car from the barn in answer to Army demands, quit work on Monday after what she termed a week of threats from fellow employees and refusal of company officials to give her work. Upon reporting to the United States Employment Service, W. M. C., she was given a release and a referral to a new job.

Meanwhile other workers were also told there was no available work — despite repeated claims by transit officials that there exists a manpower shortage — and invariably the workers turned down were those who answered the Army's call to go back to work.

SEEK DISCHARGE 8-19-44

Another widespread and ugly picture of the new "underground tactics" of workers seemingly set on carrying through the original aims of the lost strike was seen in efforts, openly carried out, of more than a hundred workers to force discharge for violations of rules. Such discharges, carrying causes would not come under the Army orders preventing reemployment in any war industries, or causing immediate military induction.

One operator was quoted as bragging openly that he pocketed 108 fares and was said to have been disappointed because he was not caught and fired.

On the surface, however, everything seemed to be moving smoothly and the Army hastened plans to withdraw from control of the company properties.

No disturbances resulted when the first two Negro operators left for their regular runs. Both were accompanied by instructors. 8-19-44

GRAND JURY RESUMES

The Federal Grany Jury investigation into the causes resumed on Tuesday following a weekend recess. Union officials, both of the CIO and the old PRT Employees Union, and company supervisors have been subpoenaed.

DENIAL EMPLOYMENT

The seven other fired workers may seek new employment, United States to be denied employment because of strike activity, the Army announced on Monday that only one worker, Thomas A. Quigley, 30-year-old father of two children, would be blacklisted from war employment. Later it was revealed Quigley has been classified 1A by Selective Service provided they escape Army service. Four were granted releases on the theory that they answered the Army call to return to work. Three proved circumstances, which accounted for lighter treatment. Quigley failed to offer any excuse for failure to report to work. He

8-19-44

PROBE BY FBI OPENS

GOP Lingo in Philly Transit Indictment

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.
10-6-44

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 5.—Probably the best clue to the thinking that dictated the reactionary, partisan, Republican character of the federal Grand Jury presentment in the Philadelphia transit strike probe comes from Mrs. Hugh D. Scott, one of the jurors.

The grand jury indicted 30 on two counts under the Smith-Connally law in connection with the week-long strike that paralyzed Philadelphia transit last August after eight Negroes had been upgraded to serve as motormen. Its accompanying presentment whitewashed the Philadelphia Transportation Co., though admitting officials knew in advance of the strike and did nothing about it. At the same time, the report praised company unionism and smeared the CIO Transport Workers Union which was praised by the army for its part in ending the strike.

Mrs. Scott is the wife of the Republican Congressman from Germantown, who once attracted national attention with his assertion that Republicans are entitled to rule because "we are of the best stock."

ATTACKS FEPC

Emerging from the grand jury room, Mrs. Scott told reporters:

"It is my honest opinion that the CIO and the government directive (requiring PTC to upgrade Negroes) were the direct causes of this strike. If it were not for such a directive, the strike would never have happened." 10-6-44

Thinking like that apparently dominated the jury. While indictin 30, including several declared in nocent by the CIO, which will de fend them, jurors at the same tim held that they are "victims of large forces under the influence of whic they have been affected."

Lest anybody get the impressio that the "forces" to which th jurors refer are the Ku Klux typ that caused the strike, the present ment continues with a direct attac on the CIO,

BOURBON THINKING

A few excerpts point the Bourbon-type thinking: 10-6-44

On company unions:

"The members of the jury are interested to note that country-wide we have made a long step away from the company union which might, with the right motivation on both sides, have seemed the ideal method of relations in our industrial life."

On the CIO:

"We are interested also to raise the question whether our country can safely afford to leave wide open the way for a great organization to develop in the United States a strong central power and government, reaching its tentacles into every community of any size in the land and in its principles of action seemingly subversive of the principles first declared and later constituted in this city of Philadelphia as the basis of the life and government of our great republic."

On company responsibility (remember, not one company official was indicted): 10-6-44

"The jury regrets the failure of the officials of the PTC to take firm hold on the situation after information on the signing of a petition and on the proposed meeting in the Alleghany Ave. barn had been brought to their attention on Monday afternoon, July 31." The strike broke out Aug. 1.

Strike Against Company's Jim Crow Policy

8-22-44

BRIDGEPORT, PA., (C)—Five hundred and fifty employees of the Continental Diamond Fiber Company have been on strike since May 15 and will continue to stay from work until the company gives its colored workers better treatment. Said Frank Hogman, local vice-president of the United Textile Workers which have organized plant, Colored workers have little chance for promotion and have none of the comforts such as drinking fountains which are available in every other part of the plant. Besides the poor ventilation in their department was a "health hazard, because of much fly dust". The company denied discrimination exists.

Expect tensions as 200,000 more Coast Negroes seek jobs

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.

SAN FRANCISCO—Harry L. Kingman, regional director of the FEPC for the Pacific Coast, anticipates possible increased racial tensions as cutbacks and reconversions in war industry increase, he told reporters here last week.

Number one problem facing the FEPC is the placing of 65 to 70 percent more Negroes in West Coast peacetime industry than in pre-war days and in the face of possible discrimination, Kingman said. He estimates that such a percentage of the Negroes who have come to California and other Pacific Coast states for war employment will remain here.

The greatest growth of any one group in Coast history, there are approximately 200,000 more Negroes on the Pacific Coast now than there were four years ago Kingman believes. In the San Francisco area, he estimates there are now 75,000 where there previously were 12,000; in Los Angeles, 150,000 where there were 49,000; in Portland, 22,000 where there were 2,000; in the Seattle area, 30,000 where there were 5,000. 10-28-44

That means an approximate total of 271,000 Negroes on the Pacific Coast, about 257,610 of whom are comparative newcomers as against 66,000 pre-war residents.

The regional office of the FEPC has been operating here for 13 months with a subsidiary office in Los Angeles. Kingman has two assistants here and two in Los Angeles. With jurisdiction over five states, California, Washington, Oregon, Arizona and Nevada, the FEPC may open a other branch of Kingman's office the Pacific Northwest.

Former YMCA worker in China, Kingman sums up the nature of the FEPC as follows: 10-28-44

"The FEPC represents the acceptance by the Federal Government of an increasing responsibility for establishing equality of employment."

Refusal To Segregate Negroes

CAUSES WHITES TO STAGE STRIKE

Tribune — Savannah, Ga.
9-14-44

BIRMINGHAM (ANP) — Failure on the part of officials of TCI's Fairfield sheet mill to segregate its Negro employes is believed to have caused the walk-out Wednesday of a large number of the plant's white employes. More than 400 United Steelworkers' union members were effected by the strike.

Trouble brewed in the square department of the mill when whites became incensed over the congested conditions around the time clock. A separation between the whites and Negro workers would relieve the strain, they contended.

More than 1200 workers are employed by the plant.

Negro Employes Of Kaiser Company Lose Union Fight

SAN FRANCISCO, Calif. — Negro employes of the Permanente Corp. and the Kaiser Company, Inc., on Monday lost a fight against what they called a "jim crow" union auxiliary in order to retain their shipyard jobs.

The Negro employes had demanded the right to full membership in the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Shipbuilders and Helpers of America and had petitioned for an injunction against Local 513 and the shipbuilding companies.

MEMPHIS WAITERS STAGE A STRIKE

Kansas City, Kan.
9-8-44

Memphis, Sept. 8. (ANP) — Claiming one of their fellow employes was framed by the maitre d'hote at the Hotel Claridge, some two score waiters bus boys and waiter captains walked out on a strike.

The strikers claimed that a waiter was framed into purchasing and selling a bottle of liquo to one of the guests who was a policeman. The officer placed th man under arrest. When the work ers protested the attitude of the maitre d'hote in general and were told to "kill the strike," they walked out. The only non-striker, who went out to raise men in the place of the strikers later, is being held in contempt generally it was reported.

New York Department Stores More Favorable To Hiring Negroes As Salespeople And Clerical Workers

By LORENZO DAVIS

A recent survey of a dozen leading New York City department stores who have been more or less constantly advertising for salespeople, conducted by the Brooklyn Urban League Industrial Department to learn their attitude concerning the employment of Negroes in these positions, has revealed a general and encouraging relaxation of previous opposition to such employment.

The twelve stores included in the survey, which was made mostly by telephone, were Bloomingdales, Gimbels, Hearns, Lord and Taylor, Macy's, McCreery's, Saks—34th Street, Sterns in New York City; Abraham & Strauss, Loesers', Namm's and Goodwin's in Brooklyn.

Fully half the stores surveyed expressed that they were favorable to the employment of Negro sales persons. Typical answers of employment representatives follow:—

Bloomingdale's—Had several Negro girls at Christmas time; satisfied; hope to use them permanently

Saks—34th Street—Discussing it at present. Considering labor shortage, would like to use all races.

Lord and Taylor—Have one now. Had four others at Christmas time. Satisfied. Will hire more when openings occur.

Gimbels — No discrimination in employment. Send applicants, will be glad to interview and hire them if they qualify.

Macy's ... ad to see Negro applicants interested in selling.

McCreery's—Keenly interested in the matter of Negro sales people. Shall discuss further with management and report results to League.

The greatest single concern expressed was over possible unfavorable reaction on the part of employees and customers, and the need for a gradual educational method of introducing such Negro employees.

Those stores sharing this view, wholly or in part, included Bloomingdales, Loeser's and McCreery's. A Namm's representative stated that she had previously experienced an employee "walkout" when the first Negro women were hired as elevator operators, and did not contemplate hiring Negro sales persons this year. However, this same store has Negroes employed in several other categories, including clerical; the elevator operators are still working.

Hearn's employment representative stated that the question of Negro sales persons had not yet been considered, although Negroes were employed in numerous other capacities including clerical, elevator operators, stock, and markers who were "doing a good job."

Only one store, Goodwin's Department Store in Brooklyn, attempted to get around the question by replying that no salesgirls were needed However, an ad calling for salesgirls to work in this same store appeared in the next day's newspapers. No definite statement could be obtained from either Stern's or Abraham & Strauss.

A GREAT STRIKE SETTLED

We use the expression "great strike" above referring to the Philadelphia Transportation strike which stirred up racial and labor strife from one end of this country to the other.

It was really a great strike in our eyes because race baiters played their strongest cards to force the War Manpower Commission to rescind the order of the FEPC upgrading the Negroes to the rank of conductors and motormen in the Philadelphia transportation system. But, acting under direct orders from the President of the United States, the Army said "No" and meant NO. Col. Hayes, commanding the U. S. troops, said the government would not back down one inch, and it didn't.

Had the combined forces of the anti-Roosevelt Democrats and the Republican State Righters been able to make effective the below the belt blows against President Roosevelt, the Negro's chances for upgrading in work would have been killed. But, thank God, the eight pioneer Negroes who were rejected are now daily manning street cars, being protected in their rights by the United States Government, despite the trickery of the State Righters. The work of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice would have been null and void had the government faltered during this crucial hour.

Some of the hidden factors which played an important part in this great strike are brought to light, we think, in an editorial appearing in the Chicago Defender, issue of August 19. In order for the Argus readers to have the benefit of this comment on the Philadelphia strike we, herewith, reproduce in part as follows:

The real story behind the Philadelphia "hate strike" that tied up the nation's second largest arsenal because eight Negroes went to work on the city's street cars will never be told. Shrouded in mystery and hidden behind the scenes were sinister political mentors of the strike leaders, men in high places with powerful political strength. They were men on the fascist fringe with their hands deep in Republican politics.

Because of the power of these men, the Federal grand jury in Philadelphia will never get to the bottom of the walkout of 6000 men that cost our soldiers in Normandy the five-day output of war production in the Philadelphia area.

But it is to the ever lasting credit of the Roosevelt administration that the strike was able to boomerang against the cynical, hardened, boss-ridden GOP big wigs who hoped to embarrass the New Deal into taking the step which would lose for the Democrats the Negro vote.

The Republican mayor of Philadelphia and the Republican governor of Pennsylvania attempted to put the burden of responsibility for the strike on the New Deal.

But through swift, all-out, forceful action, President Roosevelt's advisers turned the calamitous insurrection against its perpetrators. By bringing the full wrath of the Federal government down upon the heads of the rebellious strikers, the New Deal policy of fair employment was made a reality. With a united front of the army, War Manpower Commission, Department of Justice and Selective Service, the New Deal upheld with every weapon at its com-

Striking Phila Car-men Lose Deferred Job Status

Following the ... gust 3, authorizi... possession and as... systems of the Ph... Acting Secretary o... director of Selecti... date cancellation of ... ing Transit workers.

Approximately 6,000 ... who struck because ... grading of eight Negro ... ees of the system, ... work last week. Four ... rested as the ring leaders and

... sey, directing all local boards to ... end immediately the occupation- ... al deferment of all registrants ... 18 through 37, employed by the ... Philadelphia system who were on ... strike while deferred in occupa- ... tional classification.

... mand the Fair Employment Practices Committee and its order to the Philadelphia Transit Company cracking down on racial discrimination in "The City of Brotherly Love."

Politics went out the window when President Roosevelt invoked army rule over the transportation lines.

And politics should go out the window in the Negro people's appreciation to the President for his courage and fortitude in standing up against the race haters three months before election day to once again reiterate his belief in the principles of fair employment regardless of race or color.

The above is a pretty good picture of what happened ... Philadelphia.

35j-1944

Views On Labor News

John Lewis, Westbrook Pegler And the Stench at Philadelphia

Daily Worker - N.Y., N.Y.

By George Morris

INVESTIGATORS searching for the origin of the Philadelphia race strike ought to turn to John L. Lewis' corner. His people showed no public interest in it. But it bears all the marks of the handiwork of his goons. I have no more information than is publicly known. But I draw my conclusion somewhat as a detective does as he inspects a cracked safe and says: "This looks like the handiwork of the same guy who blew so and so's safe."

In the first place, Lewis' District 50 has been going for company unions, embracing them as "independents" and giving them a label of "legitimacy" through District 50 charters. Since the AFL shut the door in his face he released his goons with new fury.

Secondly, only a couple of weeks before the Philly strike came like a bolt from the blue, the gentlemen on Lewis' payroll came down like vultures on New York and began pestering Third Ave. Railway System workers, members of the Transport Workers Union, with their application cards. The nucleus for their operations there is a group of facists, Christian Front anti-Semites who have long ago been with Lewis. 8-12-44

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THIRDLY, some weeks earlier, at Lockland, near Cincinnati, Lewis' goons gave us a premiere exhibition of what we have seen in the city of brotherly love. The Wright Aeronautical Corp. there is under contract with the United Automobile Workers. Lewis' goons set their eyes on it. Transfer by the company of a number of Negroes into an all-white department was their cue. Prejudices among these predominantly southern workers were whipped up to a frenzy. Wright's was the only major strike on D-Day.

Fourthly, the Daily Worker has on many occasions exposed Lewis' anti-Semitism. We have even reproduced District 50 leaflets used for organization with anti-Semitic drawings.

Finally, whether Lewis' people did or did not have a direct hand in Philadelphia, the group of degenerates who were used to promote the race strike, knowing of the invasion in New York and the Ohio race strike, certainly knew that there was a welcome mat out for them at the house of Lewis.

The entire affair at Philadelphia followed a pattern which Lewisites, Trotzkyites, Norman Thomas Socialists, Klansmen and now GOP strategists who are interested in it, have made familiar throughout the country. The plan of delibate provocations to spread industrial riots and insurrection against the government and to exploit them for anti-Roosevelt purposes, has been conceived in the same brain that wrote the GOP labor plank. Look into the Montgomery Ward, Midwest truckers, Detroit "soda pop" and other such situations and you'll find the pressure of those who look for loopholes and excuses to provoke a strike rather than ways to avoid them. 8-12-44

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LEWIS works in silence through his hundreds of goons. But Westbrook Pegler who writes every day for millions of readers, spouts out Lewis' program. Some months ago, when interviewed by a Scripps-Howard reporter, Lewis had some nice words for Pegler. And vice-versa, I'd like some one to show me one unkind word from Pegler about Lewis in recent months. Pegler, fronting for the GOP, has openly called for riotous, insurrectionary anti-government action. He called upon Americans to "strike against the government" and tell it to "go to hell."

He is openly defending the ringleaders of the Philadelphia race strike, justifying it on the claim that it is a "right" of Americans to discriminate against others on race or religious lines. He rants against the Transport Workers Union for cooperating with the government to defeat the race inciters. In last Thursday's column he justified company collusion in promotion of the strike, as charged by the TWU, adding, "Wouldn't you do all you could to damage a Communist outfit? This is a mean, tricky union and here was the company's chance by passive action, to strike it a blow."

Pegler has openly invited an investigation of his part in the Philadelphia situation.

Jury Told to Consider Phila. Strike Politics

World Telegram N.Y., N.Y. 8-9-44

By the United Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9.—Federal Judge George A. Welsh charging a grand jury to investigate every phase of the Philadelphia transportation strike, today told the jury to remember "what happened in Philadelphia can determine the outcome of the national elections in November.

Warning the jurors that retribution to the ostensible leaders of the six-day strike was only one part of their duty, Judge Welsh ordered them to investigate every reason behind the strike and to carry their investigation as far back as three years in a study of the corporate structure of the Philadelphia Transportation Co.

Judge Cites Election.

"The reason given for the strike," Judge Welsh said, "is one of racial intolerance. I hope that is not the real cause. We must be cognizant of the fact that a national election is being held this year, and what happened in Philadelphia can determine the outcome of that election."

The strike started when the PTC upgraded eight Negro employees in an operator training program. All operating employees of the company immediately walked out. 8-9-44

"This investigation," Judge Welsh said, "is different from any investigation of its kind I have ever known. Ordinarily, the grand jury is called to investigate crimes. But you are to investigate something more. . . . The strike struck a blow at a cause for which thousands of our boys are fighting on battlefronts throughout the world.

'Not for Nothing.'

"This strike," Judge Welsh continued, "didn't happen for nothing. Men don't take stands like this on trivialities. I cannot believe the men were actuated solely on the thought that eight Negroes were employed."

Meanwhile, the army, now in charge of the PTC facilities, announced it was resuming the training program for both Negro and white operators.

All 7 Negro Trainees Operate Passenger Cars in Phila.

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 8-16-44

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 15.—All seven Negro trainees were operating regular passenger trains today. The Army, which withdrew armed guards from all vehicles several days ago, reported everything tranquil.

However, local newspapers were playing up a story of a few 'teen age Negroes trying to get a free ride on a trolley operated by white motormen and another story of a brick thrown at a trolley, as "violence." 8-16-44

At the same time, the local papers have not printed news showing collusion between big Republican interests and the "white supremacy" gangsters. No local paper, for example, has reported that Philip Pendleton, attorney for [redacted] "white supremacy" strike leaders [redacted] an employe, with his name on the door, of the biggest Republican law firm in the city, Montgomery, McCracken, Walker, Rhoades, or that Montgomery formerly represented traction interests. 8-16-44

Meanwhile the grand jury, which resumed its investigations today, is evidently following instructions by Judge Welsh, to dig into the corporate structure of the PTC, and the possibility of a political conspiracy to influence the elections. They spent the whole day questioning Charles Ebert, vice-president of the Philadelphia Transit Co.

6000 PTC employees are on regular runs under the guidance of instructors. They will be "on their own" next week when their training period ends. The eighth Negro resigned, saying his PTC job interfered with his duties as a minister.

Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, who seized the traction system on Aug. 3 for the War Dept. on orders of President Roosevelt, said that his mission—returning transportation to normal—was ended. The Army relinquished control at 11 a.m. yesterday.

In a statement Gen. Hayes said he was "reasonably assured" operations will remain normal, and announced that troops, who rode vehicles in battle dress for days, already were leaving city. 8-17-44

Company's Promise

"If I did not feel this," the statement said, "I would be compelled to remain and keep a large number of troops away from the work for which they have been trained—fighting the Germans and Japs. I do not believe that any patriotic citizen would want to shoulder the responsibility of delaying further the departure of thousands of men for the battlefield. These men already have lost many valuable hours of training which can never be regained."

Following Gen. Hayes' announcement, Charles E. Ebert, executive vice president of PTC declared the company is determined to continue operation as the Army has done, obeying all applicable laws and war regulatonis."

Meanwhile, a Federal Grand Jury, conducting an investigation into the causes of the strike, heard three PTC superintendents testify yesterday.

Both Ebert and Dr. A. A. Mitten, personnel director of the system, have spent a day before the jurors citizen would want to shoulder and were advised by U. S. District Court Judge George A. Welsh to inquire into the labor history and corporate setup of the company for causes of the strike, as well as among employes and labor leaders.

New Contract

Army Quits Philadelphia; Negroes Back on Jobs

PM-New York, N.Y.

Gen. Hayes Says Troops Will Return to Training for War

Special Correspondence

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 18.—The Philadelphia Transportation Co. is back in civilan control today, and seven of the eight Negroes whose upgrading to trolley operator trainees precipitated a walkout by

the services of their attorney, Philip C. Pendleton. They are James McMenamin, William C. Dixey, Jr., Frank A. Thompson, and Frank P. Carney, former president of the PRT Employes' Union, independent, which once was sole collective bargaining agent for PTC workers.

The Transport Workers Union CIO, which defeated PRT Employes' Union and an AFL union in a collective bargaining election on the system, last week signed a contract with PTC giving wage increases estimated at $3,000,000 a year to PTC employes. The contract still must be approved by the War Labor Board.

WHITE MAN'S VIEWS

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

James McMenamin Disgraced the Irish in Philadelphia Strike

By TED LE BERTHON

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

8-26-44

IN Philadelphia an Irish-American named Jim McMenamin joins a streetcar men's company union and leads a walkout in protest against an upgrading of Negro fellow workers that had been ordered by the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee. His main reason, he avers, is that if motormen, conductors and bus drivers of the white race have to rub shoulders with Negroes they're apt to catch bedbugs.

He points out that Negroes have been living in poverty for a long time in vermin - infested slum areas, and that if Negro streetcarmen were upgraded, they would have the privilege of stretching out on wooden benches in car barns during rest periods and leaving their bedbugs there to get into the clothing of the next white car man who sprawled there.

Mr. Le Berthon

DISGRACED IRISH

The strike is over but it takes the United States Army to end it. McMenamin is arrested, along with three fellow race haters, on Federal warrants charging them with violation of the Smith-Connally Act. A couple of days after the arrest, Senator Richard Russell of Georgia blames the FEPC for the six-day strike. He vomits words for an hour in the Senate, declaring the FEPC had forced Negroes on both the streetcar company and the white workers. This, despite the fact that the CIO, with an equal rights program, had won a labor board election to represent all the workers.

8-26-44

IF I were all Irish instead of only part Irish, I'd join the Ancient Order of Hibernians in this critical period of history and demand of McMenamin that he either publicly retract his un-Christian, un-Catholic and un-Irish stand or change his name. For he has disgraced the Irish and has disgraced a decent Irish name. Whether he is a Catholic or not, he has gone counter, as a company unionist and as a race-hater, to the pronouncements of the Holy See and the American hierarchy.

SOMETHING TO PONDER

In Los Angeles recently, Robert Heger-Goetzl, organist at All Souls church in nearby Alhambra, professor of music at Immaculate Heart college, Los Angeles, music critic of the Tidings, archdiocesan Catholic weekly, and composer of a Mass and other liturgical music, was refused the rental of a house when the owner, a Southerner, learned he was a Catholic. That Heger-Goetzl, a gentle, dignified, distinguished appearing man is a Catholic was enough to horrify the owner. He didn't have to have bedbugs to be repellant in the eyes of the same kind of Southerner who despises Negroes. McMenamin might ponder this.

PHILADELPHIA TRANQUIL

Guardian — Boston, Mass. 8-19-44

Collapse of the Philadelphia transit strike is complete and President Roosevelt is widely commended for his prompt action in ordering the Army to take over and operate the City's transportation system. Under a sharp ultimatum issued by the Army general practically all strikers returned to their jobs. If the purpose of the strike was to prevent colored up-graded men from serving as motormen the effort was a flat failure. All the colored trainees, seven of them, are operating passenger cars and the Army has withdrawn armed guards from all buses, trolleys, subway and elevated trains.

The city is tranquil. The Federal grand jury is seeking to uncover the basic motive behind the strike. There is widespread belief that the walkout was motivated by something more than the mere up-grading of a few colored employees, and that the color issue was only a pretense behind which was a deep-laid Nazi plot to break the Transport Workers Union and halt war production in the nation's second greatest arsenal. For this reason there is extraordinary interest in the findings of the grand jury.

Negroes Transfered To Lathe Operating Jobs; Whites Strike

Informer — Houston, Texas

6-17-44

CINCINNATI.—(ANP)— Angered because of the transfer of seven Negroes to lathe operating jobs which previously employed whites at the Wright Aeronautical Corp., 15,000 white employees Monday, went on strike. The strike was unauthorized, said a United Auto Workers Union local (CIO) and unless these workers resume work within three days they will face disciplinary charges.

The strikers were from the first and second shifts and quit after the Negro employees were assigned to "move production" in machine shops.

According to Robert Spitzmiller, president of the local, organization heads are doing their best to get the employees to return to their jobs.

6-17-44

A wire to UAW officials, local 647, from George W. Taylor, acting War Labor board chairman, stated: "At this critical moment in the life of the nation no group of workers can be permitted to place their grievances above the immediate needs of the Armed forces."

30 Indicted In Philadelphia Tram Strike

Courier Journal Louisville, Ky. 10-5-44

Labor Disputes Act Violations Charged

By the Associated Press.

Philadelphia, Oct. 4.—A federal grand jury, indicting thirty men in connection with Philadelphia's six-day transportation strike in August, observed today that "we have made a long step away from the company union which might, with the right motivation on both sides, have seemed the ideal method of relations in our industrial life."

After saying that there had been strife between four different labor organizations among Philadelphia Transportation Company employes, "but chiefly between members of the former employes union and the new transport workers union" (C.I.O.), the jury's report added:

"We are interested also to raise the question whether our country can safely afford to leave wide open the way for a great organization to develop in the United States—a strong central power and government reaching its tentacles into every community of any size in the land and in its principles of action seemingly subversive of the principles first declared and later constituted in this City of Philadelphia as the basis of the life and government of our great republic."

10-5-44

Platform Jobs 'Chief Fuel.'

While the report stated that "so far as there was flame or fire in the strike, the chief fuel therefor came from resentment over the upgrading of Negroes to 'platform' positions," it added that "the great majority of the employes were not interested to strike on this basis."

The list of thirty men named in the single indictment, all employes of the P.T.C., was headed by the names of James H. McMenamin, William C. Dixey, Jr., Frank P. Carney and Frank Anthony Thompson, who were arrested during the strike on charges of violating the War Labor Disputes Act, the same charge as that in the indictment.

In the section dealing with strife between the unions, the jurors stated that "union feeling was rampant among the leaders."

Strike Issues Listed.

10-5-44

"The intense drive for members, the fact that election of officers had not been held, the loss of initiative in deciding local problems, the taking of orders from a so-called international officer . . . the large increase in dues, the failure at the time to see any benefits from the new contract, the impression that the no-discrimination clause of the C.I.O. was based more on desire for members and income than on goodwill toward the Negroes—each of these had its part in the spirit manifested in the strike," the report said.

Mrs. Marian C. Scott, wife of Representative Scott (R., Penn.) and a member of the grand jury, said in an interview after the findings had been presented that, in her opinion, the "C.I.O. and the Government directive (for the upgrading of Negro employes) caused the strike."

10-6-44

Agrees With Directive.

Mrs. Scott said she agreed with the principles embodied in the upgrading directive, which was issued by the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, but thought the F.E.P.C. could have handled the situation differently. "The lower you go in the social scale, the more prejudice there is," she said, without explaining the remark. She suggested that the F.E.P.C. directive might have been withdrawn or suspended temporarily after the strike developed.

35j-1944

Ala. Strike for Segregation

Defender—Chicago, Ill.

BIRMINGHAM—(ANP)—Failure on the part of officials of TCI's Fairfield sheet mill to segregate its Negro employes is believed to have caused the walk-out Wednesday of a large number of the plant's white employes.

More than 400 CIO United Steelworkers' union members were affected by the strike. 9-16-44

Trouble brewed in the resquare department of the mill when whites became incensed over the congested conditions around the time clock. A separation between whites and Negro workers would relieve the strain, they contended.

The People:

People's Voice—New York

QUESTION

Edited by Llewellyn Ransom

Do you think the Philadelphia strike helped or hurt the Negro people?

8-26-44

G. Hatter, OPA clerk, NYC: I think it helped in as much as the strike served as a warning to the Negro people that in order to preserve their wartime gains, they will have to organize. A minority unorganized is lost and can only look to charity and pity.

* * *

A. Turner, Pullman Porter, Chicago, Ill.: It helped. The US Government is beginning to take notice of the need for government intervention for justice toward the Negro people. Not only the 5,000 whites and 1,000 Negroes who walked out, but the reading public of the nation learned a lesson.

* 8-26-44

James E. Mitchell, U. S. Navy: I think the Negro people were helped. The radio and the press, to some extent, soon learned the truth about the Negro and the strike. They learned the Negro or race question was used by the enemies of labor and the war effort as a red herring in a fight with organized labor.

* * *

Luther Harrington, U. S. Army: The strike helped, or rather the results helped Negro people. The race scare did not stop the administration from sending in the army. What happened demonstrated to the world what the temper of the nation is today. America is tired of its Hitler elements.

8-26-44

W. J. Harris, worker, NYC: The strike was settled quickly before the Negro could be used as a scapegoat and before Philadelphia could be torn asunder in a race riot. It certainly bolstered the morale of those who want to see America fight Nazism at home.

Workers Strike to Get Negroes Segregated

(ANP)—Failure on the part of officials of TCI's Fairfield sheet mill to segregate its Negro employes is believed to have caused the walkout Wednesday of a large number of the plant's white employes. More than 400 United Steelworkers' union members were effected by the strike.

Trouble brewed in the resquare department of the mill when whites became incensed over the congested conditions around the time clock. A separation between whites and Negro workers would relieve the strain, they contended. 9-15-44

More than 1200 workers are employed by the plant.

Philly strike Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif. leaders plead today

PHILADELPHIA—With violen outbreaks still being reported, instigators of the Philadelphia Transit Co. strike which provoked local racial clashes appear for hearing today. Pleading innocent upon arraignment and released on $2,500 bond, the four who called an independent union strike because of the upgrading of Negroes to platform jobs are: James H. McMenamin, Frank P. Carney, William C. Dixey, and Frank Thompson.

As the Federal Grand Jury resumed its investigation of the strike and the racial clashes, threats to a white motorwoman and two outbreaks of violence were reported. Mrs. Dorothy Hibbs, who took the first trolley out when the Army broke the strike, quit her job because of threats directed at her by fellow workers.

A dozen Negro boys, leaving a PTC bus after an argument over payment of fares, attacked a war plant worker. Two hours later, a Negro woman was injured when hoodlums showered bricks through a street car window. 8-28-44

Army induction and blacklisting for all employment under the Wage Stabilization program faced Thomas A. Quigley, one of the striking motormen, who refused to return to work when the Army took over.

Negroes And Whites Join In "Walkout"

Inquirer—Philadelphia, Pa.

7-1-44

By TED WILLIAMS

HOUSTON.—The failure of the Hughes Tool Corporation to comply with a directive order of the War Labor Board for the extension of their contract with the United Steel Workers of America, giving them exclusive bargaining rights and maintenance of membership, led to a wholesale walkout of some 3500 members of the CIO affiliate, including 1200 Negro workers, from the plant Friday afternoon.

Vote Not to Return

The walkout took a serious turn, when both the Negro and white workers, in their meeting Friday, voted not to return to work until government actions had been taken to force Hughes Tool to abide by the WLB ruling.

Since that time it has been reported that several hundred workers at the plant, not connected with the CIO, have joined in the walkout.

Goes to Washington

Thomas M. Mobley, industrial relation director for Hughes Tool, is reported by officials of the Steel Workers' local 2457 to have gone to Washington and told the National WLB that the company could not comply wtih their ruling, on the grounds that a strong independent union was represented at the plant and that they have been seeking an election to determine who should be given the bargaining rights. That until such election was held the company would ignore the order. Mobley is also reported by the union officials to have questioned the WLB authority to issue such orders as were given Hughes Tool. 7-1-44

A recent election at the plant gave the CIO a majority of memberships at the plant and in accord with the election, the company was ordered to deal exclusively with the CIO as a bargaining agent for the workers.

With the termniation of the CIO's contract April 6, the WLB reportedly agreed on the CIO as the bargaining union at the plant, ordered that the expired contract be extended until a new contract, worked out by hte steel workers, could be made. 7-1-44

Alvin Butler, Negro head of the independent union at the plant, told a member of the Negro press that with expiration of the CIO contract, the independent had requested another election held. This request was denied by the National Labor Relations board.

Martin Speaks

F. M. Martin, president of the CIO local at Hughes Tool, in speaking to the Negro steel workers Friday, told them that the white workers had questioned him as to whether or not the Negro workers would stick by the walkout. When Martin called for a sign of the men's intentions, the thousand odd men and women assembled in the St. Nicholas Catholic hall howled for several minutes their intention to stick out to the end.

Sharing the lead with Martin in the walkout was R. R. Grovey, senior staff member of the local, and CIO organizer, whose stirring speeches before the men brought long and loud cheers of approval.

Whites Attend Meeting

Several of the white members of the steel workers union left their meeting, at the Stonewall Jackson school to see what action the Negroes were taking. When they walked in the door of the hall, where the Negroes were meeting, the group stood in a body and cheered that they were with them.

Grovey, in speaking at a public mass meeting held at the Coliseum Monday night gave the sentiment of the Negro workers when he told some 3500 or 4000 steel workers and their friends, "If they hang us this time they will hang us, black and white together." 7-1-44

Martin told his organization that the whole trouble lies in the Huges Tool management, using the leaders of the independent union to keep the pay scale of the workers at a low level. He charged that the independent leaders have been misleading many of the workers for the benefit of the company.

Independents Charge Unfairness

Baker of the independent union, charged the CIO with being unfair in walking out, without giving the company a notice. He admitted that a number of the independent members walked out with the CIO. Baker stated that if another election is held at the plant he was sure that the independents would win. He gave the results of the last election as his reason. He added that with some 1538 men taking part the CIO won by a 142 majority. Baker concluded stating that there were 1045 workers who did not take a part in the election.

Wherein the walkout is no official strike, members of the steel workers' union have been meeting those who have continued to work, at the gate requesting that they stay out of the plant. No disturbance of any importance has been reported at the plant. 7-1-44

It has been agreed that the Hughes Tool situation is another case of the Montgomery Ward dispute at its Chicago plant. No settlement seems to be forthcoming soon, as Mobley is maintaining that the walkout has not seriously hampered the production program.

At the Monday night mass meeting, the union stressed their patriotism and loyalty to the war effort but stated that they are sure that the thousands of union members, fighting in the war, are looking for them to fight for the rights of labor.

Walkout When Negro Is Made Crane Operator

Argus—St. Louis, Mo. 7-12-44

Transfer of a Negro employe to the job of crane operator at the East St. Louis Works of American Steel Foundries, 2100 E. Broadway, caused about 30 white operators to quit their jobs Friday, Bellmore Perry, Negro president of the CIO United Steelworkers of America, Local 1038, said Saturday.

Although the company's contract with the union states there shall be no discrimination against

employes because of race, Perry said the white men operating overhead cranes at the mill gave notice last Wednesday that they would quit if Negroes were brought into the department. Perry added that crane operators usually work alone in small cabs, making actual contact between workers unnecessary.

Company officials declined to comment upon the incident, but stated that the plant would close today for a week's vacation. In addition to the traditional company United Auto Workers, CIO, protesting against the employment of Negro workers in former all-white departments.

Union officials undertook to persuade the strikers to return to work.

Strike Against Negroes Ends

Tribune—Los Angeles, Calif.

7-12-44

Nearly 2,000 employees of the Wright Aeronautical Corporation at Lockland, Ohio, early this week followed an unauthorized strike by about 400 members of the

White Workers Get Break For Negroes

The Whip — Miami, Fla. 6-17-44

BRIDGEPORT, Pa. (C) — The five hundred white workers who went on strike at the Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Company against the unfair treatment of the company's Negro help, have won their strike and are back at work. According to Edward Hirschberger, international vice president of the United Textile Workers Union which called the strike, company officials have agreed to pay equal amounts for its Negro workers, improve sanitary conditions, and employ race women.

Hire Two Negroes 500 Whites Strike

Journal & Guide — Norfolk, Va. 6-17-44

BIRMINGHAM, Ala.—(ANP)—Angered because two Negro riveters were assigned to work on the same line with whites, 500 white employees of the Virginia Bridge Company here walked off the job Wednesday.

The strike completely halted the plant's production of section bridges for the armed forces. Only 28 Negroes are employed by the company, the majority of them in menial positions.

Strikes Hit War Plants In Missouri

Workers Walk Out As Protest In Company's Delay in Firing Foreman

6-12-44

ST. LOUIS (ANP)—A series of war plant strikes hit this area during the last month. The General Steel Castings Corporation's Commonwealth plant was closed one week when 300 colored chippers staged a walkout in protest of the company's delay in discharging or transferring a white foreman while the Negro workers formed a picket line around the National Lead Company, charging that plant with discrimination of job opportunities.

At the General Steel Casting Corporation's Commonwealth plant the colored chippers charge the white foreman with trying to drive them off the job. While the unorganized United Steel Workers of America, Local 1022, has not approved the walkout, the men's grievances are legion. Union officials said the company has ignored the grievances around "like

Demanding equality of job opportunity and the end of discrimination, 160 colored strikers threw a picket line around the National Lead Company last week. They work in the plant's laboring, packing and shipping departments. Roy Hogland, local FEPC representative, dropped jurisdiction of their case when they staged the strike without notifying officers of their union. They belong to the CIO United Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers, Local 212. About 500 white workers reported for work and reorganized their work schedule to prevent complete work stoppage. 8-12-44

The plant manufactures pigment used in making paints, rubber, textiles, paper and other commodities for the war effort.

47 Whites Quit When 2 Negroes Are Promoted

Farmer — Houston, Texas 8-12-44

DAYTON, O. — (ANP)— A strike at the Inland Manufacturing division of the General Motors corporation where the men, employed on the department's three shifts, "went home" last week rather than work with two Negroes, ended the latter part of the week and the workers returned to their jobs.

Forty-seven white workers walked out when company officials contended that two Negro workers, James L. Campbell and Austin "Bull" Taylor, both of Dayton, promoted and transferred to production jobs in the department, earlier last week, had earned promotion and had a right to their jobs in the department, Max Monroe, comptroller of the division, said. He stated that the company had refused the workers' demands that the two employees be transferred from that department.

When it was brought to the attention of officials that James L. Campbell, a Negro worker, during the past year had missed but one day and worked so much overtime that he had the equivalent of 372 work days in one year, he was promoted to operate a machine which Negroes had never been placed on before. 8-12-44

When the whites went on strike they were advised that they were free to quit because the Negroes would remain on their new jobs.

Harold E. Beck, president of Local 87, United Rubber Workers of America (CIO), and Asa Tiller, international union representative, warned the workers that unless they resumed production, it may mean expulsion from the union.

With such threats the workers resumed their duties the latter part of the week and the two Negroes remained on their new jobs.

Strikers Lose In Battle To Bar Colored Motormen

Inquirer — Philadelphia, Pa. 8-12-44

By GEORGE LYLE, JR.

(See pages 3, 10, 19 and 20 for additional stories on the PTC strike)

Reporting back to work after the strike had been quelled by the government's work or fight edict, the eight colored men, five of whom were being upgraded and three of whom were referred to the PTC by the United States Employment Service, were told to go home and report back the following morning.

This continued to be the setup as far as these 8 men were concerned, until Wednesday morning when they resumed their training. Previously they had been reporting daily to the barn where they were originally assigned and then to 820 Dauphin street, the Employment Department where they received their orders to return to their homes until the following day.

A spokesman for the group intimated that they went into this thing with a definite objective in view and they were going to stick it out until they had gained that objective. 8-12-44

The Philadelphia TRIBUNE has learned from a reliable source, that the delay in their training was due to the instructors being pressed into service as trolley operators. There were no classes for the training of operators being held during during this time.

After tying up the transportation facilities of the city for five days, the workers employed by the Philadelphia Transportation Company returned to work a little poorer, but possibly no wiser, Sunday. 8-12-44

Acting under orders issued by Major General Philip Hayes, who took over the PTC on Thursday on executive orders, the men who had participated in the "walkout" as a protest against the company's hiring and upgrading eight colored men and starting them in classes to fit them as motormen, resumed their duties with only 181 of the more than 6000 failing to report for duty long before the deadline, set by General Hayes, was near.

Mroe than 8000 soldiers set up camp in Fairmount Park and started the grim business of convoying the trolleys, busses and subway and elevated lines on their routes. Rigged out in full battle gear, with rifles and fixed bayonets, they brought to the peaceful "city of Brotherly Love" an aspect of the war which many had never expected to see. 8-12-44

Despite the many rumors to the contrary, there are no colored soldiers assigned to the city to "ride herd" on the traction system. Colored soldiers who were seen here were members of transportation units of the Quartermasters Corps whose job it was to bring the soldiers and their supplies here.

Meantime the four men, who were the known ringleaders of the movement which halted traffic, were arrested on Saturday night and held in $2500 bail each for the Grand Jury by U. S. Commissioner Griffin.

Following closely upon that blow was the notice from the PTC that they were no longer on the pay-roll of the company.

Plans are being made by Attorney General Francis Biddle to investigate thoroughly the charges brought by Michael J. Quill, president of the Transport Workers Union-CIO., who accused the PTC of being in collusion with the strikers. Cooperating with Biddle are the local authorities, the FBI and other governmental agencies.

The hearings, which began Wednesday, were held in the regular grand jury room in the Federal Building. Henry A. Schweinhaut, special assistant to the U. S. Attorney General, will conduct the inquiry. 8-12-44

Poll Shows 52% Whites

Courier — Pittsburgh

Favor Race Operators

Pa. 8-19-44

By JACK SAUNDERS
Staff Correspondent

PHILADELPHIA — The "impossible" has happened. History has been made! . . . Negro Americans are operating PTC trolley cars on regular passenger runs in various sections of the city. The first car driven by a Negro motorman started its run from the 59th and Callowhill streets carbarn at 8:30 Monday morning, and later in the afternoon another trolley car was taken out on a "paying passenger run" by a second Negro.

William Barber of 3708 Mt. Vernon street, took out the first car. The second was operated by a Negro from another carbarn, but his name was withheld. On Tuesday morning, Rufus G. Lancaster of 4002 Ogden street, and Lewis S. Thompson of 1410 N. 25th street, left the barn at 59th and Callowhill streets on passenger runs. These men operated Route 15 cars, which travel East and West on Girard avenue. The other Negro trainees scheduled to begin regular runs this week are Emmett Wigglesworth, Thomas Allen, Joseph Jones, Frederick Todd and James Stewart. 8-19-44

Simultaneous with the assigning of Negro motormen to regular runs, the findings of a survey was made public, showing that 52 per cent of the citizens of Philadelphia were in favor of Negroes operating trolley cars if they were qualified; 37 per cent were against them holding motormen jobs, and 11 per cent had no opinion at all regarding the matter.

63% DISAPPROVED STRIKE

The survey also disclosed that 63.5 per cent of the citizens disapproved the strike; 25.5 per cent favored it, and 11 per cent had no opinion.

Each person interviewed was asked: "Do you think PTC employees were justified in stopping work?" Among the whites, 27.4 per cent said "yes"; 60.9 per cent said "no," and 11.7 per cent had no opinion. Among the Negro residents five per cent said "yes"; 90 per cent said "no," and five per cent had no opinion.

Among members of all labor unions, 29.5 per cent thought the strike was justified; 59.1 per cent thought it was not, and 11.4 per cent had no opinion. Among non-union members, 24.9 per cent of the men thought the strike justified; 63.9 per cent thought it was not, and 11.2 per cent had no opinion. 8-19-44

The majority of those who expressed an opinion favoring the employment of Negroes as motormen were quick to point out that the job of motormen could not be considered such a "juicy plum" as to throw the city into chaos, halt the production of war materials and all but cause a race riot, bloodshed and severe property damage. Proponents of that line of thought pointed to the fact that

the job pays only 78 cents an hour as an entrance than to beginners, and that there are far greater in importance than that of a trolley car operator. hundreds of Negroes holding jobs By late Monday afternoon all in defense and private industries soldier guards had been removed and drawing salaries triple from trolley cars, and the major-the amount of that paid a trolley city of the GI's under command of car motorman. They also stressed Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes had left the fact that the only eighth grade the city. Taprooms and State requirement was an eighth grade liquor stores reopened Monday education or the equivalent. Negroes in Philadelphia holding college degrees and high school diplomas run into the thousands, and as such many hold jobs which

5j-1944

ome Lessons In Democracy Which Were Learned In Philadelphia, The "City Of Brotherly Love"

Age — New York, N.Y.
9-16-44

By
ORGE EDMUND HAYNES, Ph.D.

he effort to remove discrimin- n against Negroes in employ- t on the street cars, elevated bus lines of Philadelphia cipitated a strike of its 6,000 employees. Four white rmen, whose public expres- showed bitter race preju- and stupid judgment about r own best interests, headed a committee of thirty-five, d as leaders and spokesmen the strikers. They persisted four days in blocking the nsportation services for over ,000 war workers and a city of ,000 people. Manufacture of tegic war supplies for our ting men and women overseas seriously cut in the second st war production center of United States. The U. S. Army the Department of Justice to use strong-arm methods to k the strike and to get the back to work by threatening with loss of their jobs and arresting four of the leaders.

The lessons from this terrible perience should help at many er points. First, race prejudice be a smoke screen for ac- mplishing other ends. There are ications that some officials of Philadelphia Transportation mpany, which formerly had a mpany union, did not want the I. O. as the bargaining agent its employees and were re- ed as showing some rather ange action and attitudes ard the walk-out. 9-16-44

It was clear, too, that after all rsuasive methods have been ex- sted, the U. S. government can force to protect the rights of citizens and to preserve law d order.

The use of force, however, and settlement of the strike by t means did not settle the cial tensions and possible con- . Many tensions in race re- lations as well as those between organized labor and management remain. Public opinion has been inflamed in a most dangerous way. The work of the Fair Employment Practice Committee, of the Army, the War Manpower Commission and the Federal Grand Jury will not be able to solve these basic attitudes and patterns of behavior. They exist to a greater and less degree in Philadelphia and every other city of the United States, even where the effects are not so conspicuous as in the city of Brotherly Love. 9-16-44

Further, during the five days of the strike the rumors, gossip and lies that were spread among the idle workers probably inflamed many existing prejudices and planted others in heads where they did not before exist. Newspaper reports say that stories were passed around that Negroes wanted to rape white women, Negroes were taking over the city, etc. All these rumors were without foundation in fact. Such rumors have been used repeatedly at other times and places to incite prejudiced minds to action by the fomentors of racial conflict.

Affected Morale Of Negroes

Besides the cut in war supplies by loss of man hours, this episode lost moral and spiritual values. The effect on Negro morale, both those who are in the armed forces and those at home now and after the war and the effect upon the colored people in China, the Philippines, India and Africa, should lead us to see that this play upon prejudice is too costly for American democracy. Those who cause such disturbances are digging deep and dangerous pits into which our democracy may fall. 9-16-44

While in past decades discrimination would be winked at or tolerated by responsible officials, in this strike not only officials of the government but the large majority of the people of a large American city were ready and willing to come to grips with this most serious threat to our American way of life.

Furthermore, this experience shows that white workers in large measure as well as management are not yet converted to the idea that Negroes should have equal opportunities with whites for whatever jobs are available. These white workers were partly motivated by fear of what will happen to them when the war is over and there is shortage of jobs. This fear is a part of the feeling that enabled their leaders to swing many of the rank and file against their own larger interests as workers.

Since these strikers did not respond to the appeal of fair play nor to the patriotic appeal about the welfare of their country in a critical stage of this great war, it was necessary for government to use coercion applied directly and effectively. It indicated too that the municipal police, state militia and federal military authorities acting together can with wisdom and firmness prevent, even under great provocation, serious racial conflicts. 9-16-44

Another striking lesson partly shown by the Philadelphia experience is the beneficial influence of organized social and religious forces standing side by side with government officials. The leaders of the church groups, the Philadelphia Federation of Churches through its Interracial Department, the Young People's Interracial Fellowship, several ministerial organizations, and civic and social agencies over the radio and in public print exerted themselves to rally the rank and file of the people against accepting the dictation of the strikers and against interracial disorder, rioting or looting.

Negro Leaders Lauded

The attitude of the Negro leaders of the community against hoodlums and their public appeals to the Negro people drew deserved commendation of the daily press in Philadelphia and New York. One newspaper reporter said that Negro leaders had prevented transit strike chaos and that a major share of the credit for the prevention of serious disorder in Philadelphia was given by city officials and newspapers to this sane, effective Negro leadership. They caused the distribution of 100,000 handbills the first day of the strike advising all citizens "Sit tight. Keep your head and your tempers. Treat other people as you would be treated. Share your car." The same message appeared on placards in more than 300 places in the Negro community. Posters also advised: "Negroes, think before you act. Your neighbors are not your enemies." 9-16-44

One of the elements in preventing racial conflicts in any community is for leaders of the Negro community really to guide the people according to their own best interes in a crisis. They cannot do th however, except in cities whe previously the friendly cooperati relations between the races h been sufficient to remove suspici and bitterness and to give co fidence.

The demonstration of governme local, state and national, and local citizens, white and Neg that they can stand together a see that fair play, law and ord prevail against fear, prejudice, a the mob is invaluable in these t rible times.

To Employ Negroes as Operators

Call — Kansas City Mo.
9-11-44

Four Leaders Arrested On U. S. Warrants

PHILADELPHIA. — Convinced that the Army meant what it said, the 6,000 striking operators who tied up transportation here for five days returned to their jobs Sunday and Monday, August 6 and 7.

The strikers, who left their posts because 8 Negroes were being trained as street car operators, were given three choices by Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, War Department representative who took charge of the strike-bound company. They could return to work, be called to serve in the armed forces or be deprived of any job for the war's duration.

Deadline Set 9-11-44

General Hayes set Monday at 12:01 a. m., as the deadline. All who were not at work by then and who could not produce a doctor's certification of genuine illness would be dropped from the company rolls and kept from all jobs under WMC control. They would not be entitled to unemployment compensation.

All except a mere handful of workers returned to their jobs, ending the tie-up which seriously affected the production of radar, military equipment and ammunition vitally needed by the Army.

When the strikers returned, they had won nothing. The 8 Negroes in training were called back to complete their instruction as operators. There had been no compromise, the government refusing to rescind the FEPC and WMC orders that Negroes be given opportunity to become operators.

Train Eight Negroes

Following a hearing last year, the FEPC ordered the Philadelphia Transport company to employ Negroes as operators. The company resisted the order and failed to comply until the War Manpower Commission announced July 1 of this year that no referrals would be made to the company as long as its employment practices were racially discriminatory. 8-11-44

The company then began the training of eight Negroes as operators and on August 1, the 8 were ready to take trial runs without passengers. The strike began at the hour when the Negro men were to make their runs, white operators reporting one by one that they were "too sick" to work.

Responsibility for the strike has not been definitely placed but the blame seems to lie with officials of the company union which lost the NLRB election early this year.

Arrest Four

The arrest of four men on U. S. warrants charging them with being leaders of the strike followed the return of the strikers to work.

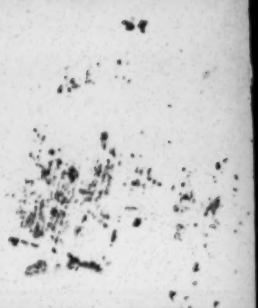
Those arrested are James H. McMenamin, chairman of the strikers' committee; Frank Carney, President of the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employes union, which lost to the CIO in the election for bargaining rights; James Dixon and Frank Thompson, prominent in the walkout.

All are under $2,500 bond until August 14 when they are scheduled to be arraigned for hearings. 8-16-44

There have been over 100 other arrests of persons who engaged in acts of vandalism and racial disturbances.

Inspired By Carney

Government officials believe that the strike was inspired by Carney and other company union officials smarting under the CIO defeat. The company union, before and since the election, has preached opposition to the employment of Negroes. Posters were placed on the walls of the car barns, urging operators to "Call a strike and refuse to teach the Negroes.



Informed of Strike 8-11-44

Dr. Arthur A. Mitten, Publicity on the fi peared to be a white The public is with you." did with Negroes. This Another poster said, "Recent- headquarters during the five days ly the WMC has been twisted in- of the strike, the beginning and to a 100 per cent lobby. This Ne- has been charged with collusion gro lobby refuses to send any in the strike. help whatsoever to an employer who refuses to hire Negroes." Because the company did not prevent the placing of such pos- Relations officer for the com- ters on its property and because pany, was informed eight hours the company permitted the strik- before the strike began that there

All except a mere handful of workers returned to their jobs, ending the tie-up which seriously affected the production of radar, military equipment and ammunition vitally needed by the Army. This is a white to keep Put the Negroes back where they belong on the roadway."

The company union was opposed to the upgrading of Negroes from a walk-out, but he, man's job and we intend to prevent it. Mitten de- collusion, saying that pany was losing $150,000 a day by the strike. The key man in the strike ap- to be Carney. In a meet- the first day of the strike, the beginning and Carney headed speaking to 3,500 gather- a delegation of company union car barn said: "We don't delegates who went to Washing- groes and wa won't work ton several months ago to pro-

test the FEPC ruling.

The company union reflected opinion of the company itself which traditionally has limited the employment of Negroes.

Upgraded Men

Five of the eight men over whom the strike occurred are PTC employes who were upgraded while the other three were referred by the USES. The five upgraded men and their records are:

Lewis Sylvester Thompson, 43, an employe of the company 19 years. He began as a track man, later was advanced to thermite welder and progressed to a welding foreman, which job he held four years before transferring to an electric welding unit.

Thomas Allen, 35, has 16 years' seniority with the company as a maintenance man.

Rufus G. Lancaster, 42, and Emmet Wigglesworth, 36, both of whom have been with the company for 8 years in the capacity of porters.

William Barber, 25, a PTC trackman for 3½ years.

The three men referred by the USES were:

Joseph Jones, 21; former truck driver; Frederick Todd, 28, minister, and James Stewart, 48, musician.

During the strike, white and Negro war workers were good-natured as they walked to work or waited on corners for pickups by motorists or by trucks sent by various war plants to designated points. From one third to one half of the city's war workers were forced to be absent because of the tie-up.

Barker and Williamson Co., International Resistance Company, Leeds and Northrup Co., Philco Corporation, Schlichter Jute Cordage Co., Vibration Speciality Co., Bendix Aviation Corp., General Electric Co., Kellett, Proctor and Haas, Robertshaw Thermostat Co., Struthers Dunn Ink, Budd Mfg. Co., J. G. Brill Co., Baldwin Locomotive, Heinz, SKF Industries, Bulova Watch Co., Midvale Steel Co., Electric Car and Equipment Co., Carrier Corp., Buchman Manufacturing Co., William Whitaker and Sons, Sedgely Co., and Fred Goat Co.

Plants and Items Affected

A partial list of important war plants listed by the War Department as seriously affected by the transportation tieup included:

The War department said important wartime activities were also affected at the Frankford Arsenal, the Philadelphia Quartermaster Depot, the Philadelphia ordnance District (a supply nerve center; and the Philadelphia Signal Depot and the Philadelphia Storage and Issue Agency, both of which are Army funnels for front-line materials.

A partial list of critical items the production of which was curtailed by the walkout, as compiled by the War Department, included radar, ocean cable, wire manufacturing machinery, eight-inch shells, heavy trucks in the most critical catagories and components, heavy artillery and components, carriages for heavy artillery, certain critical fuses for bombs and shells, bearings for heavy artillery, heavy gun tubes, flame throwers, incendiary bombs, jungle hammocks, cotton ducks, rifle grenades, parts for the B-29, B-24, B-17, P-47, C-46 and other planes, and a considerable number of urgent secret items.

Trolleys Roll Once

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.

More in Quaker City

8-12-44

Armed Troops Ride Every Car; Strike Leaders Fired, Jailed

By JOHN JASPER

PHILADELPHIA.

The city's six-day strike of 6,000 trolley, "L," subway and bus workers ended Monday.

For nearly three days after President Roosevelt took over the lines and sent in 5,000 white troops, the strikers defied the President, Army officers and government officials.

Saturday, Major General Phillip Hayes cracked down with an order—giving strikers until midnight Sunday to go back to their jobs.

Army Can't Wait

"The Army can wait no longer," General Hayes declared and added that after that deadline soldiers would operate the cars and buses.

Strikers who failed to report for work would be (1) fined (2) kept jobless for the duration of the war (3) drafted into the Army.

General Hayes showed that the Army couldn't wait any longer by grabbing the four strike leaders and putting them in jail.

James H. McMenamin, chairman of the "Committee of Six," directing the strike, who boasted that he would rather go to jail than order the strikers back to work with n——s; had his wish. He went to jail, stayed there all night and was released under $2,500 bail to face charges in Federal Court of violating the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike law.

8-12-44

If found guilty he faces fines up to $5,000 and imprisonment up to a year.

Negro Promoted To Crane Job 30 Whites Quit

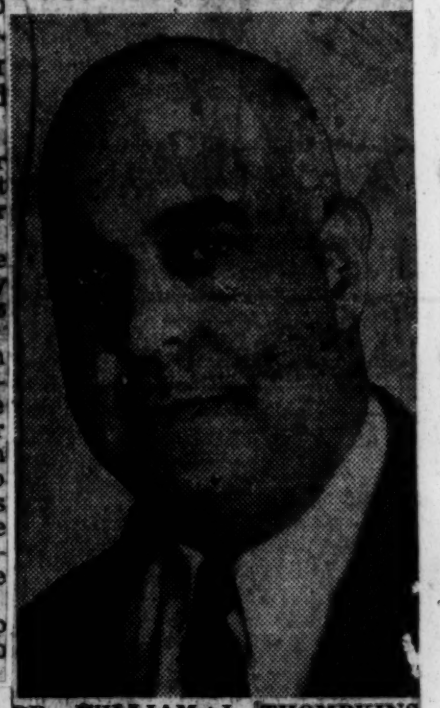
Defender — Chicago, Ill.

7-8-44

EAST ST. LOUIS—When a Negro was upgraded to the job of crane operator, thirty white crane drivers quit at the East St. Louis plant of the American Steel Foundries this week.

Bellmore Perry, president of Local 1038, CIO United Steelworkers said that the union's contract with the steel company set out that there should be no discrimination with regards to job. He added that the crane operators gave three days notice that they would quit if a Negro were placed in their department.

D.C. Recorder Dies



DR. WILLIAM J. THOMPKINS

WASHINGTONN

Dr. William J. Thompkins, recorder of deeds for the District of Columbia, for the past ten

Disgrace in Philadelphia

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

10-6-44

WHEN Philadelphia transportation was paralyzed last August by a strike over promotion of Negroes, it appeared that no greater disgrace was possible. That was wrong. A silk-stocking grand jury, dominated by partisan Republican thinking and hatred of organized labor, has just compounded the disgrace and saddled the city with new and unbelievable shame.

That grand jury had a responsible task. The nation and its fighting men abroad awaited thorough-going investigation of the anti-American forces that plotted this strike and carried it through.

But the grand jury kicked its responsibilities aside. Its presentment is an affront to America. Philadelphia first and the country in general should protest this outrageous document and demand that new and serious, effective steps be taken to bring the guilty to justice.

Consider the circumstances. Philadelphia Transportation Company officials are proved to have advance notice of the impending strike. They do nothing. They take a "what's the use" attitude. The presentment notes this and "regrets" it. Not one official indicted. Not one word of condemnation.

10-6-44

Thirty PTC employes are indicted, most of them connected with the defunct company union. That the strike was a last desperate move by the employer-controlled outfit to discredit the CIO is widely known. How else can even the jurors account for the predominance of company union men among those indicted? But the presentment praises company unions.

The report fixes responsibility for the strike everywhere and nowhere. Its tone breathes indifference to the vital principle of racial equality transgressed in this strike. The indicted include, in addition to some self-proclaimed strike leaders already under arrest, several that the CIO declares innocent. Nowhere is there recognition of the role of President Roosevelt, whose speedy sending of federal troops ended the stoppage.

But most shocking of all is the presentment's attitude toward the CIO Transport Workers Union, elected choice of PTC employes. The TWU opposed the strike from the beginning, fought day and night for the principle of no-discrimination and won official Army thanks for its aid in getting men back to work.

10-6-44

Judge the jury just by this: Far from recognizing and lauding the role of this great CIO union, its report dares to impugn its sincerity—a sincerity proved in action and proved without the help of any of the bias-blinded Republicans who served on the jury. And these jurors dare to call the CIO "subversive." The presentment itself is subversive from top to bottom. There must be a new federal probe.

35j-1944

Ft. Pierce, Fla., News & Tribune
January 8, 1944

Negroes Return to Work Thursday After Staging a Walkout

Twenty-one negro warehousemen and carloaders employed at the plant of the Indian River Refrigeration Terminal Co. who staged a walkout for higher pay Thursday returned to work later in the day under an agreement that they will continue work at the same scale of pay for a period of two weeks, during which time an investigation of claims of inequalities in pay will be made and War Manpower commission authority sought for any necessary adjustments, according to announcement of the plant management.

Eight of the workmen remained on the job and two others had returned later. Eleven of those who walked out were picked up by the sheriff's office, two minors were later released to return to work, and Prosecuting Attorney A. C. Simmons filed vagrancy charges against the other nine.

The negroes, it was stated, sought an increase to 65 cents an hour from their pay of 50 cents, claiming that they could get higher pay for other local work.

Management of the plant said no notice of intention to walk out was given. The wage has been long established, the negroes have been given year-round work, and the pay could not be increased without War Manpower Commission authority, it was stated.

Race Shipyard Strikers Back On La. Jobs

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Protection Against Mobbing, Beating Is Promised

2-26-44

NEW ORLEANS—(A N P)—Negro workers of the Delta shipyard, after a meeting with the management in which adequate protection against mobbing and beating by whites was promised, decided to return to work last week.

The general walkout of all Negro workers was staged as a result of repeated abuses of Negro workers and followed immediately upon the beating of Milford Foster, a construction worker and member of the Common laborers union (AFL), workers at the company stated.

In a meeting last Friday with J. R. Davis, company personnel director, union representatives headed by Monroe Stringer and J. Green told the personnel chief that the workers refused to return to work unless protection at the shipyard was provided. Committees from each were appointed to report further cases of mistreatment to the management.

2-26-44

It is said that the company has made efforts previously to iron out the difficulties amicably, but little practical action had been taken on the previous beatings.

At a meeting of the International Union of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers, Local 270, which had pledged its support of the shipyard workers, Carroll Bolding, recording secretary, stated:

"This, what is happening in the shipyard, is the same brutality shown by the Germans and Japanese and something must be done about it."

1,400 MEN ARE IDLE IN AREA WALKOUTS

Age-Herald-Birmingham, Ala.

Steel Plant And Coal Mine In District Affected

6-22-44

About 1,400 men—workers in a structural steel plant and a coal mine—were idle in the Birmingham area Wednesday as a result of two unrelated strikes.

6-22-44

Approximately 500 white employes of the Virginia Bridge Company were on a walkout in a dispute over employment of Negro riveters along with white men. R. E. Farr, district director of the United Steel Workers (CIO), termed the walkout unauthorized.

A company spokesman for the Tennessee Coal, Iron and Railroad Company, said more than 800 men were idle at the company's Wylam mine Wednesday afternoon. The spokesman said no demands had been made on the company and no reason given for the strike.

Both companies affected are subsidiaries of the United Steel Corporation.

Discrimination In Pay Rates Scored

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.

5-24-44

BRIDGEPORT, Pa. — (ANP) — Contrary to former strikes where whites oftimes staged walkouts because officials attempted to upgrade Negro workers, more than 500 employes at the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Co., last week refused to return to work until the company guarantee an end to Negro discrimination in the plant.

Members of Local 58 Friday marked the sixth day of the unauthorized strike that was provoked by repeated rebuffs from the company in union negotiations an dthe ultimate refusal by the company to elevate Negro workers who have been with the plant from 10-12 years.

According to Frank Gable, union president and a mechanic in the plant, "the company has refused to recognize our union ever since we voted for it last August. Sure, we have a contract but it doesn't mean a thing to the company. We've all been sore, but now we're really mad when we know how they are treating Negro workers here and refusing to give them a chance. Our boys feel that if the Negro worker can't get his rights, what worker can?"

DISCRIMINATORY PAY RATES

Although two of the four Negroes restricted to the boilerroom have been with the plant for 20 years, no opportunity has been given them to advance in to cleaner and better paying departments. Negroes in the boiler rooms, who are paid 79 cents an hour, charge discriminatory pay rates as well as unsanitary conditions not comparable to departments where white workers are.

The boiler room has a blower at one end through which rags come cut up, there are no safeguards and the men breathe the dust eight hours a day and more.

OFFICIAL BALKS

5-24-44

In spite of the fact that the workers have agreed to return to work if the company guarantees to correct the condition, Vice President Frank Anderson of the company, refuses to guarantee anything until the workers return. Both the army and navy have threatened to take over the plant to keep production going, according to the union's international vice-president, Edward Hirschberger.

Although the basic issue involved is discrimination and the workers are demanding economic equality for Negroes, they have promised to return to work and discuss other grievances later if only the company will end bias.

The company manufactures gears for airplane and tractor motors.

500 in 'Race Bias' Walkout Defy Back-to-Work Order

PM - New York, N.Y.

Discrimination Against Negroes in War Plant Charged

5-21-44

By Shirley Katzander
Staff Correspondent

BRIDGEPORT, Pa., May 20.—In the face of union, Army and Navy demands, more than 500 workers at the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Co. are refusing to return to work until the company guarantees an end to Negro discrimination in the plant.

This is the sixth day of the unauthorized strike of members of Local 58, United Textile Workers Union, AFL, a strike provoked by repeated rebuffs from the company in union negotiations and finally the company's flat refusal to advance Negro workers who have worked in the plant from 10 to 12 years.

Frank Gable, union president and a mechanic in the plant, says that "the company has refused to recognize our union ever since we voted for it last August. Sure, we have a contract but it doesn't mean a thing to the company. We've all been sore, but now we're really mad when we know how they are treating Negro workers here and refusing to give them a chance. Our boys feel that if the Negro worker can't get his rights, what worker can?"

4 Negroes in Plant

There are now four Negroes working in the plant, all of them restricted to the rotary boiler room. Two of them, Joseph Silas and Robert Williams, have worked in the boiler room for 20 years with no opportunity to advance into cleaner and better paying departments.

They along with the other workers, charge discriminatory pay rates as well as unsanitary conditions not comparable to departments where white workers are. For instance, Negroes in the boiler room are paid 79 cents an hour.

The room in which the Negroes work has a blower at one end through which rags come cut up. There are no safeguards and the men breathe the dust eight hours a day and more.

Workers and company have reached a stalemate which could be solved if the company is willing to end discrimination. The workers have agreed to return to work if the company guarantees to correct the situation, but Frank Anderson, vice-president of the company, refuses to guarantee anything until the workers return.

5-21-44

keep their rights after years of working in an open shop. Among other grievances, they claim that the company promised a three cent an hour pay raise, but never applied to the War Labor Board for it. They also want an extra five cents an hour for workers on the swing shift.

However, the basic issue involved is the discrimination and the workers are sincere in their demands for economic equality for Negroes. They have agreed to return to work and discuss other grievances later if only the company will end discrimination.

Here are some of the reasons given by rank and file members for refusing to heed pleas of their union to return to their jobs:

Robert Smith, tube winder: "The main issue here is discrimination against a man because of his color, as if that matters. I remember we had a man, not long ago in our de-

international vice-presi-
have advised them to return
but as a worker I feel
fied. They simply refuse to
to work until unjust condi-
corrected."

Organized 8 Months

Hirschberger has personally
asked the workers to return, but dent I have ac-
tions are cor-
kers here are militant and
ve, determined to gain and
aggressive, de-

Both the Army and Navy have they are adamant and will not go to work, but a
threatened to take over the plant back to work without company Organized
to keep production going (the com guarantees. "This strike is not sanctioned by
pany manufactures gears for air the union," Hirschberger said, "but
plane and tractor motors), accord- ing to the union's international vice- president, Edward Hirschberger, right or wrong, they're our people and it's our duty to stand by them.

partment, who had 20 years experience. When they needed somebody for a night boss job, they asked all of us about it except him because he was colored—and he was way ahead of us in seniority."

'A Mean Break'

Caleb Pennock, with 18 years of experience as a press operator in the plant: "I'm out because the colored people got a mean break and I feel that we've got to stick together, all of us, to get anywhere. They're workers same as us."

Joseph O'Malley, sheet fibre operator: "We're out on this because we feel that we're fighting the same enemy, and we've all got to stick togther to beat it."

Augusta McGee, paper mill operator: "The real issue in this fight is discrimination against Negro workers. It's just another way for the company to fight the union, the way they fought unionization for years and discrimination for years. I'm for staying out until everybody gets a decent break."

Joseph Silas, Negro foreman in the boiler room: "We're grateful to all the workers who are helping us fight discrimination in this plant. We're as grateful to them as we are to the soldiers overseas who are fighting the same fight."

200 Miners Quit Work Over Negroes

Courier-Journal

Louisville, Ky.

6-20-44

Union Says Management Gave Them Best Jobs; Walkout Called 'Wildcat'

Paintsville, Ky., June 19 (AP)—Norman Fraley, United Mine Workers Union local president, said today that some 200 workers in the Consolidation Coal Company's Van Lear, Ky., mine left their jobs this morning because the company had "hired Negroes and put them in the best places in the mine."

Fraley stated the men felt they were being discriminated against when the company recently engaged Negro workers and assigned them to places in the higher coal while white miners were having to work in the lower seams.

Calls It 'Wildcat.' 6-20-44

M. M. McCormick, superintendent of the mine, termed the walkout a "wildcat strike" and said the unionists had submitted no grievance. McCormick said he understood the men were protesting against the employment of Negroes, however.

The superintendent said the employment of Negroes was not new at the Van Lear operation.

"We always have had Negroes working in the mine," he said, adding "it's just a case of the U.M.W. 'wildcatting' again."

McCormick said one or two Negroes had been employed recently, but denied that Negro workers were given any preference in working places over whites. 6-20-44

The office of International U.M.W. Representative Tom Rainey at Pikeville said it had received no report of the walkout.

Racial Protest Strike Still On

World-Memphis, Tenn.

6-9-44

BRIDGEPORT, Pa.—(C) — The 500 workers at the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Company are still refusing to go back to work until the company ends its discrimination against Negro help. For more than a week now the workers have been out because of the company's flat refusal to advance its Negro employees.

These workers are sincere and aggressive in their demand for economic equality for race men. Says Robert Smith, tube worker, "The main issue here is discrimination against a man because of his color, as if that matters. I remember we had a man who had 20 years of experience. When they needed somebody for a night boss job, they asked all of us except him, because he is colored."

Caleb Pennock, press operator, added "I'm out because the colored people got a bad break and I feel that we've got to stick together, all of us, to get anywhere. They are workers, same as us."

6-9-44

Wright Workers Remain On Strike

World-Memphis, Tenn

(Washington Bureau of the Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

6-9-44

WASHINGTON — Despite pleas of Army Air Force officers and a union official to return to work 12,000 workers of the Wright Aeronautical Corporation at Lockland, Ohio, remained on strike in protest against the transfer of seven Negroes to lathe work formerly handled exclusively by white employes.

The dispute was referred late Tuesday night to the War Labor Board. The unauthorized strike, starting on the eve of D-Day and continuing uninterrupted through the day of invasion, has stopped vital production of engines for Navy aeroplanes.

Colonel George Strong, the Air Force officer, urged the strikers to "stop this monkey business."

MINERS STRIKE, CHARGING FIRM FAVORS NEGROES

Chicago Defender

6-24-44

Paintsville, Ky., June 20 (AP).—Three hundred miners of the Consolidated Coal company at near-by Van Lear, Ky., struck today in protest against what one union official said was favoritism to Negroes.

Superintendent M. M. McCormick said he had no official word as to the cause of the strike, but that he "understood" the men were protesting the employment of Negroes.

The superintendent, who said the Van Lear operation had employed Negroes for some time, insisted that there had been no recent change in the company's attitude toward these workers. McCormick estimated the lost production at 1,500 tons a day.

White workers get break for Negroes

BRIDGEPORT, Pa.—(C)—The 500 white workers who went on strike at the Diamond Fibre Manufacturing company against the unfair treatment of the company's Negro help, have won their strike and are back at work. According to Edward Hirschberger, international vice president of the United Textile Workers Union which called the strike, company officials have agreed to pay equal amounts for its Negro workers, improve santiary conditions, and employ race women.

INVASION DAY FINDS 14,000 MEN OUT ON STRIKE

Chicago Defender

6-17-44

[BY ASSOCIATED PRESS.]

Invasion day found approximately 14,000 men and women idle in scattered labor disputes.

Production of finished airplane engines was halted at the Wright Aeronutical plant in Lockland, O., and at least 12,000 employes were off duty following the transfer of seven Negroes from one shop to another. Company and CIO union officials agreed it was a protest against mixing white and Negro workers. 6-17-44

The Timken Roller Bearing company at Canton, O., reported nearly 1,000 CIO unionists had left their posts in a seniority controversy. At Toledo, 450 baker employes still were away from work.

30 White Workers Walkout When Race Operator Gets Job

World—Memphis, Tenn.

7-14-44

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill. (ANP)—The up-grading of a colored worker at the American Steel Foundries here to that of crane operator has resulted in the walkout of 30 white crane operators, said Beilmore Perry, president of local 1038, CIO United Steelworkers of America, last week.

While a company spokesman declined to comment on the walkout, Perry pointed out that production would not be halted at the plant, which produces railroad equipment, since the plant has been closed for a one or two weeks vacation period.

7-14-44

Perry said the white operators gave a three-day notice of their intention to quit when the colored operator was upgraded but pointed out that the unions contract with the steel company forbids any discrimination with regard to jobs.

Hopkinsville, Progress-Jasper, Ga.

Ten negroes employed on a housing project in Marietta last week engaged in a sit-down strike demanding a raise from fifty to fifty-seven and one-half cents an hour. The chief of police gave them the choice of going back to work or the station house on a charge of loitering, and three of them went to work and seven to jail. The home draft boards of the seven were notified of their unwillingness to work. If that course was adopted all over the country war plants would not have to stand idle from time to time, but it should be applied with equal force to all groups. We have no patience with war time strikes.

6-1-44

WORKERS RETURN TO BRIDGE PLANT

Post-Birmingham, Ala.

Approximately 50 per cent of Virginia Bridge Co.'s workers were back on the job this morning as a two-day work stoppage ended in the plant that builds section bridges for the armed forces.

The firm's approximately 500 employes quit Wednesday in a dispute over the presence of several Negroes in a rivet line according to an account by the United Steel Workers Union. 6-23-44

R. E. Farr of the Steelworkers said all the workers were expected to return during the day, following settlement of the dispute.

A work stoppage also was gradually breaking up at Tennessee Coal and Iron Co.'s Wylam coal mine where operations have been called for several days. The day shift was reported about 50 per cent of normal.

Chicago Washroom Strike Is Ended!

Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

6-1-44

CHICAGO.—(ANP)— Most of the 300 white employees of the Allied steel Casting Co. plant in Harvey who staged a strike over separate washrooms for Negroes and whites, are back at work, S. A. Person, international representative of the United Steelworkers of America announced Tuesday. Some inter-were together on the segregation. The President's FEPC governor Green's Interracial Relations committee was caused mission and the Chicago Civil

Difficulties commutted to all interested the bases for the walk-out and real reason behind the action

35j-1944

Philadelphia Transit Beginning to Move; TWU Hails FDR for Swift Action in Strike

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

8-7-44

By HARRY RAYMOND

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 6.—The rapid transit lines began coming to life slowly here today as a foot-sore population looked forward to midnight, deadline set by Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes for an end of the six-day "white supremacy" strike.

Troops—estimated to total more than 5,000—were in control of every strategic transportation center by 1 a.m. Agitators, who had been calling on street car, subway and bus operators to refuse to work if Negroes were given equality with whites on the lines, were barred from company property by helmeted soliders armed with carbines.

With intimidation by leaders of the disturbance checked and the general's ultimatum that those who continue to strike after midnight will be barred from all industrial employment for duration of the war fresh in the minds of all, transit operators began climbing aboard their vehicles. Each street car, subway car and bus that went back on its route today carried two armed troopers besides the regular civilian operators.

INSTIGATOR ARRESTED

Meanwhile, James McMenamin, chief instigator of the jimcrow demonstration, and his lieutenants Frank P. Carney, William C. Dixie (also known as Dixon) and Frank Compton were seized on federal warrants and hustled off to Moyamensing Prison, charged by U. S. District Attorney Gerald A. Gleeson with violation of the Smith-Connally anti-strike law. The four were in jail all night. They were released today on $2,500 bond each and are awaiting hearing on the charge.

8-7-44

It was estimated during the afternoon that 210 out of the city's 1,932 trolleys were operating. Seventy out of 564 buses and ten out of 77 elevated and subway trains were running during the afternoon.

No soldiers were driving street cars, buses or trolleys. Their job so far has been to guard them. Several soldiers, however, were making practice runs with passengerless buses and were preparing to operate the lines themselves if necessary.

NEGRO JOBS PROTESTED

Trolley operator James Alloway takes a fare from the first passenger to board his car, soon after the Army took control of the strike-bound Philadelphia transit lines. Patriotic workers like Alloway who heeded the government's back-to-work order were being threatened by the anti-Negro strike inciters, leaders of whom were arrested yesterday by the government for hamstringing war production.

First men to return to work were loyal supporters of the Transport Workers Union who had opposed the reactionary strike from the beginning, but feared to work without protection against hoodlum leaders of the shut down.

One thing made clear by the army commander is that the eight Negro trainees for the job of operator will return to work. It was to force firing of these Negroes that the McMenamin gang instigated the walk out.

8-7-44

The stoppage actually cut deep into the city's heretofore good war production record. Army and Navy officials estimated it caused loss of 5,000,000 man hours—or 25 percent of the working time of Philadelphia war workers.

This 5,000,000 man hours would have produced five destroyers, or 267 Flying Fortresses, or 17 Liberty ships, or 200 motor torpedo boats, or one fast cruiser, or 9 destroyer escort vessels, or 111 large land landing ships, or 41,666 .50 calibre guns, or 833,000 garand rifles.

Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, in his order, declared the PTC employes could take their choice of three things—return to work, serve in the armed forces or be deprived of their jobs for the duration of the

"For two days," the Maj. Gen. said in his order, "I have been waiting for the employes of the PTC to fulfill their patriotic obligations by returning to their jobs and restoring vital transportation service for the hundreds of thousands of war workers in this city.

"It is no longer possible to achieve that desire. The war cannot wait while the employes of this company make up their minds whether they will come back to work or not."

ARMY OPERATION OF LINES LOOMS IN PHILADELPHIA

8-4-44 Herald

Fights Between Whites And Negroes Subside After Outbreak

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3—(AP)—President Roosevelt Thursday night authorized the Army "to take possession and assume control" of the strike-halted Philadelphia transportation system.

* * *

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 3—(AP)—The Army made evident preparations Thursday to take over Philadelphia's paralyzed transportation system.

Officers apparently awaited only an order from the White House to restore service on the city's bus, trolley and subway lines, out of service three days—except for short subway resumption Wednesday night—in a work stoppage that caused race violence and inconvenienced hundreds of thousands, slowing vital war production.

War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes referred the case to President Roosevelt Wednesday, recommending "appropriate action"—which usually means government seizure and operation.

Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, commanding general of the Third Service Command, conferred with transit officials Thursday afternoon. After the meeting neither Hayes nor the company would comment. Other officers appeared at an Army headquarters, studied maps of the city and departed.

8-4-44

Placard Removed

A lieutenant posted a placard at the 26th and Alleghany Avenue terminal, then was summoned to the telephone in the supervisor's office. He ran back to the bulletin board, tore down the placard and ripped it to pieces. Then he spoke to a soldier preparing to raise a U. S. flag on the terminal pole. The soldier wrapped up the flag and they drove away.

A policeman who had arrived with them said the placard bore a presidential proclamation declaring that the system was under government operation.

Shortly after noon the Philadelphia Army Public Relations Section summoned reporters to hear what it said would be an important announcement. It suggested that photographers go to the car barns and wait. Most still waited this afternoon.

Production Reduced

Philadelphians walked or hitchhiked to work again in a drizzling rain on the third day of the tieup, which developed as a protest against the Philadelphia Transportation Company's upgrading of eight Negro employes to platform (operative) jobs.

Army and Navy installations and many war plants sent trucks to bring in employes.

War plants generally reported production cut 5 to 25 per cent, depending upon the location of the plant and its number of workers.

Fights between white men and Negroes subsided Thursday after a day of outbreaks Wednesday in which 13 persons were injured seriously enough to require hospitalization.

8-4-44

Negroes Smash Windows

Negro gangs smashed windows of white-owned stores and whites and Negroes suffered beatings. More than 300 were arrested.

"This is worse than the Nazi way of fighting," Magistrate Hobson R. Reynolds, a Negro leader, told nine Negroes arraigned before him Thursday.

"We've gone through worse things before and we will come out on top again if you will let the law take its course."

The War Manpower Commission several weeks ago ordered the transit company to upgrade Negroes. Both the company and employe groups protested.

Tuesday morning, at about the time the stoppage began, the first group of Negro operators was to have taken out cars on practice runs for the first time.

In Philadelphia Strike Expected To End Today

8-7-44 Bush-Star

ATLANTA, Georgia—

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 6.—(AP) (Picture on Page 9.)

Helmeted, rifle-carrying soldiers guarded every vehicle that moved in Philadelphia's public transportation system today with every indication that full service would be resumed tomorrow after a five-day unauthorized strike paralyzed the nation's third largest city, crippled war production and caused race violence.

A stern ultimatum from Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, who seized the Philadelphia Transportation Company today with every employe subject to induction, ordered all workers back to their jobs by midnight tonight or be barred from all industrial employment for the duration of the war.

Hayes' order, which was posted in all car barns, declared that the PTC employes could take their choice of three things—return to work, serve in the armed forces or be deprived of their jobs for the duration of the war.

"For two days," the Maj. Gen. said in his order, "I have been waiting for the employes of the PTC to fulfill their patriotic obligations by returning to their jobs and restoring vital transportation service for the hundreds of thousands of war workers in this city.

"It is no longer possible to achieve that desire. The war cannot wait while the employes of this company make up their minds whether they will come back to work or not."

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dent Roosevelt, and the arrest of four strike leaders on charges of violating the Smith-Connally act broke the back of the strike last night.

Sullen and resentful, strikers straggled back today to register for work before the 12:01 a. m. Monday deadline set by Hayes.

James H. McMenamin, leader of the general strike committee, issued a broadcast back-to-work appeal to the 6,000 PTC employes, who walked out over the upgrading of eight Negroes to operating jobs, and was arrested as he left the radio studio. 8-7-44

Immediately arraigned, he pleaded innocent along with William C. Dixey, Frank P. Carney and Frank Thompson. Each was held in $2,500 bail. After a night in jail, McNenamin posted bond today and registered to return to work at his scheduled hour of 4:30 a. m. Monday. The others also were released on bond.

U. S. Commissioner Norman J. Griffin set hearings for August 14.

The break came with crushing suddenness last night as the federal government threw its full weight into the tug-of-war between the strikers and the Army which had lasted for two days.

Gen. Hayes issued his ultimatum—"work or be fired" without unemployment compensation or certificate of availability for the duration; Attorney General Biddle ordered a grand jury investigation which was set for next Wednesday; Selective Service, in a blunt "work or fight" action, ordered cancellation of occupational deferments from all draft-age strikers, and the Smith-Connally act was invoked against the four leaders.

Several thousand soldiers from camps in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Maryland, rushed to the city late yesterday, were on duty with full battle equipment on every trolley, bus and train and every station.

The Army reported 25 of 41 lines operating this afternoon, 43 of 61 trolley lines, and subway and elevated trains running on a "limited basis."

All must be in operation tomorrow, Gen. Hayes said, or soldiers will run any "which otherwise would remain idle."

Grand Jury Investigates Race Strike

Mysterious 'Single Source' May Be Uncovered by Hearings

domestic problems of the peace. He made clear that he was ready and able to assume those duties.

It would be an overstatement to suggest that the GOP leaders are praying for an economic collapse in advance of the November balloting. They would undoubtedly prefer a nice, quiet slump—serious enough to create resentment and rebellion among thousands of voters heretofore identified in the Roosevelt column. If that happens they will proclaim that the Hoover depression, so frequently cited by Democratic orators, was practically a boom compared with the terrible Roosevelt times now facing us.

Throughout the campaign the Republicans, according to present indications, will make no effort to convince the voters that Dewey is a military leader. Even if the Japanese are still making faces at us that will be brushed off as incidental trouble to be swiftly handled by the gang-busting New Yorker.

How to Minimize FDR

The plain fact is that the Republicans cannot even convince themselves that Mr. Roosevelt's record as wartime President is easily marred. As the war bulletins come in, they know that there will be a tendency throughout the U. S. A. to credit FDR with swift, enormous and inexpensive accomplishment. The casualty rates have been far lower than was generally anticipated; the pace of our advance has been unmistakably up to schedule, if not even far beyond it.

Therefore, they will suggest that he had very little to do with the whole enterprise; they will urge the country to think about the future, rather than the past and the present. They will try to banish the memory of the period when England stood alone, when Franklin D. Roosevelt refused to give up and Thomas E. Dewey cautiously watched the Gallup polls, deciding whether to support Lend-Lease. They will pretend all that is irrelevant, immaterial and incompetent.

That is the key element in current Republican strategy. And it is a platform on which Col. Robert R. McCormick can hold hands with the more internationally-minded members of his party, because, as everybody knows, Col. McCormick never viewed the war as a serious episode in history anyway.

Sullen Transit Strikers Plod

Tribune Chicago, Ill. 8-7-44

Back to Work

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 8 (U.P.)—Helmeted soldiers armed with rifles guarded every vehicle that moved in Philadelphia's public transportation system today with every indication that full service would be resumed tomorrow after a five day strike paralyzed the nation's third largest city, crippled war production, and caused race violence.

An ultimatum from Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, who seized the transportation company Thurday on orders of President Roosevelt and the arrest of four strike leaders on charges of violating the Smith-Connally act, broke the back of the strike last night.

Sullen and resentful, strikers straggled back today to register for work before the 12:01 a. m. Monday deadline set by Gen. Hayes.

Leader Arrested.

James H. McMenamin, leader of the general strike committee, broadcast a back-to-work appeal to the 6,000 employes, who walked out over the upgrading of eight Negroes to operating jobs, and was arrested as he left the radio studio.

Immediately arraigned, he pleaded innocent along with William C. Dixey, Frank P. Carney, and Frank Thompson. Each was held in $2,500 bail. After a night in jail, McMenamin posted bond today and registered to return to work at his scheduled hour of 4:30 a. m. Monday. The others also were released on bond.

United States Commissioner Norman J. Griffin, setting hearings for Aug. 14, told the four:

"You men have given Philadelphia one of the worst weeks in its history."

The break came with crushing suddenness last night as the federal government threw its full weight into the tug-of-war between the strikers and the army which had lasted for two days.

Draft Deferments Canceled.

Gen. Hayes issued his ultimatum —"work or be fired" without unemployment compensation or certificate of availability for the duration; Atty. Gen. Biddle ordered a grand jury investigation which was set for Wednesday; selective service, in a blunt "work or fight" action, ordered cancelation of occupational deferments for all draft age strikers: and the Smith-Connally act was invoked against the four leaders.

Several thousand soldiers from camps in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and Maryland rushed to the city late yesterday, were on duty with full battle equipment on every trolley, bus, and train and at every station.

FDR's Phila. Strike Stand Won Negroes Support

Walter New York Post 8-13-44

By JAMES W. FORD.

The Philadelphia transit outburst is a pattern of how the defeatists and reactionaries are striving to obstruct the war and shape fascism for the postwar period.

It was the blast of a small clique of fascist-minded men, among them reactionary Republicans and anti-Roosevelt Democrats, designed to place reaction in the White House in 1944. 8-13-44

How the Negro people reacted to this provocation and how they feel about the manner in which the situation was and is being handled, was one of the highlights of that dangerous situation.

Open and hidden fascist-inspired forces staked their hopes on the play of one card, the outworn card of racism. They played to win however the card went. Heads or tails. Reaction fizzled. It miscalculated its opponents and the issue of democracy which is deciding the future of America in this war. The upholding of democracy is so simple and arouses such great response in the solving of a major problem in the midst of many complex situations that it is often lost sight of. The greatness of Roosevelt is that he does not lose sight of these problems.

FDR SAVED DAY

All patriotic Americans and the great progressive stream of the labor movement feel that Roosevelt saved the day. Recovering from the shocks of Mobile, Beaumont, Detroit and New York the Negro people see themselves on the winning side of the struggle against racism, job discrimination and economic-security. They are throwing their shoulders to the winning of the war. They are marching towards full democratic rights. 8-13-44

This un-American, anti-war, anti-Negro conspiracy at Philadelphia demonstrates again the increased strengthening of the alliance between the Roosevelt Administration and the Negro people. Without Roosevelt's firmly established policy of enforcing Negro rights, the enemy would have made a deep dent in the armor of progress.

Men, who are a menace to the nation, like Westbrook Pegler and the gangsters who instigated the outbreak, with Hitlerite venom tried to incite white workers against President Roosevelt as "a lover of Negroes" and foe of the "white race." Roosevelt acted in his full sense of duty and responsibility to ALL Americans—Jew and Gentile, Negro and white—so well established by his democratic prosecution of the war and his firm stand for the rights of labor throughout his Administration. This true democratic spirit most of all endears Roosevelt to the Negro people.

NEGROES UNDERSTOOD

The splendid reaction of the Negroes in Philadelphia and throughout the nation is testimony to their democratic spirit and their far vision. They acted with full understanding of the strategy of their enemies and in joyful appreciation of the democratic spirit of their friends among the people as a whole and in labor. The behavior of the Negroes was calm and restrained, where impatient and irresponsible action would have ruined the day. Colored leaders and organizations of the Negro people joined with patriotic Americans and the labor organization in helping to prevent a more critical situation. It was the behavior of a mature people. 8-13-44

The racists tried to make the issue a race war between black and white workers, because they knew that the TWU and the strong CIO would go to bat for the Negro workers. They failed in this attempt to divide labor because there is a strong current in the labor movement that stands unimpeachably for black and white unity to win the war.

And here is where the Communists too come in for no special praise but for an appreciation of their long years of struggle for the national aspirations of the Negro people, for better social and material conditions of life. Philadelphia is an historic justification of the position of the Communists for Negro-white unity. The Communists stand once and always for a solution of the problems of the Negro people along this path.

Philadelphia Incident Blamed on FEPC

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—(AP)—Sen. Chavez, Democrat, New Mexico, said today the "racial incident" which tied up Philadelphia's transportation system would have been avoided if a permanent fair employment practices law had been in effect. 8-4-44

Across the Capitol, however, Rep. Gibson, Democrat, Georgia, strike," added, told another reporter he consider-is not disbanded ed the walkout the result of opera-to estimate the tions by the administration's fair duce."

Chavez, chairman of a subcommittee which will hold hearings soon on legislation providing for relations were responsible for the walkout, adding that racial problems cannot be solved by legislation of a permanent fair practice commission, fair employment practices under such a law the committees or federal orders.

Gibson, asserting that an FEPC employment order directing upgrading of Negro said that under such a law the transit workers to trolley operaworkers who walked out in protest

35j-1944

Judge Orders Jury Probe Political Aims of Phila. Strike

Daily Worker 9-10-44

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9.—The Federal Grand Jury, opening its investigation today in the "white supremacy" transit strike, was charged by U.S. District Judge George A. Welsh to dig into the possibility of a political conspiracy to influence the national elections.

Attorney General Francis Biddle expressed the opinion in Billings, Mont., that there was a conspiracy involved in the week-long transit tie-up. 8-10-44

Transportation moved normally in Philadelphia, with steel-helmeted soldiers on each car.

Seven of the eight Negroes whose upgrading was the pretext for last week's insurrection were out on practice runs.

One FBI witness testified at today's Grand Jury hearing, Federal spokesmen announced, following Judge Welsh's charge. The hearings were closed to the public and the press. Thursday's witnesses will include a Mr. Bishop, described as an assistant to Orville Bullitt, War Production Board regional chief here. Bullitt has been charged with collusion in the plot by Michael Quill, president of the Transport Workers' Union.

Bullitt, who is reported out of town, is expected to be called before the jury when he returns to Philadelphia.

Dr. A. A. Mitten, also charged by the TWU with complicity in the conspiracy, and other company officials are expected to testify Thursday, along with GOP Mayor Bernard Samuel. Among government officials who are slated Thursday, chief interest interest centered on Frank MacNamee, War Manpower Commission chief here. MacNamee is prepared to submit evidence that Dr. Mitten demanded revocation of the President's fair-hiring order as the price for ending the transit tie-up. Negro leaders have charged that Mitten's scheme would have provoked a series of Detroit massacres. 8-10-44

Meanwhile, under the protection of troops, and with growing confidence in their CIO union, PTC workers were coming forward with additional stories showing how they were sent away and discouraged from working last Tuesday and Wednesday by company supervisory employees.

One operator states that when he reported for work last Wednesday the company clerk asked him: "How did you vote?" When he answered: "For Roosevelt," the clerk replied: "I mean in the company election." "For the TWU," came the reply. "That's why there's no work. If you had voted right, this would not have happened." Then the clerk sent him away.

'STRIKE' HALTS ALL TRANSIT IN PHILADELPHIA

Daily Tribune
Chicago, Ill.
8-2-44

Thousands of War Workers Stranded.

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 1 [Special].—Production of fighting equipment in this big war center was curtailed materially tonight by a tie-up of the city's entire transportation system thru an unauthorized work stoppage.

All bus, trolley, subway, and elevated service was halted by noon. Hundreds of thousands of workers were left stranded on street corners. Some buses were abandoned on streets. Work bound residents trudged along streets in long columns. They tried to thumb rides but had little success, automobiles being scarce as a result of gasoline rationing.

The stoppage appeared to have been precipitated by the hiring of Negro operators on transit lines, who were to have made practice runs today for the first time. They were upgraded to platform jobs several weeks ago in accordance with a war man power commission stabilization plan. 8-2-44

CIO Denies Strike.

Asserting no strike is in progress, spokesmen for the CIO-Transport Workers' union, which recently won a bargaining election among transportation system workers, asked Atty. Gen. Biddle to investigate the trouble which they said they believed was fostered by enemy agents to "incite race riots and hamper war production."

The CIO union blamed "disgruntled leaders" of rival unions but contended there also "is something more in back of it." James J. Fitzsimon, international vice president, telegraphed Biddle that "immediate action will ferret out enemy activity."

A statement issued by the CIO union declared that behind the stoppage are the "discredited officials" of three other union which has members among employes of the traction system, all of which is owned by the Philadelphia Transportation system. 8-2-44

Appeals to Workers.

The other unions are the Philadelphia Railway Transportation Employes, an independent union which the CIO group replaced as the workers' bargaining agent after a national labor board election March 14; the Amalgamated Association of Street Car, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes, AFL, and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen.

An appeal to the Philadelphia workers to stay on the job was issued in New York by Douglas L. MacMahon, secretary-treasurer of the international CIO union involved.

There was no advance warning of the stoppage, which began at one car barn at 4 a. m. and spread to other barns. In an hour all buses and trolleys were out of operation and by noon all the subway and "L" trains had stopped.

The district OPA office ordered local ration boards to make gasoline available to war workers on an emergency, day to day basis as long as the stoppage lasts.

Liquor Sales Halted.

Mayor Bernard Samuel ordered all liquor sales halted in the city and Gov. Martin ordered all state liquor stores closed until further notice. The regional war labor board notified the CIO union it would suspend consideration of a work contract until the walkout is ended. 8-2-44

War plants thruout the city reported absenteeism from workers being unable to get to their jobs. The army quartermaster depot, largest in the country, reported 30 per cent absenteeism and made arrangements to haul workers in army trucks on routes. Other work centers planned similar action.

The big Philadelphia navy yard was still in full production, the Broad st. subway having been in operation when men went to work this morning, but it was expected to be hit when other shifts tried to get to work.

# INDICATES POLITICS IN TRANSIT STRIKE

New York Times
N.Y. N.Y. 8-10-44

Judge Welsh Tells Philadelphia Jury It Must Uncover 'Hidden Motives'

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9—A Federal grand jury opening today an investigation of the six-day Philadelphia Transportation Company strike was charged by Judge George A. Welsh in Federal District Court to "uncover the hidden motives" behind the walkout, but was reminded that with a national election in the offing it should be doubly certain of its charges.

It was indicated for the first time that politics had been involved in the strike when Judge Welsh told the twenty jurors:

"I feel that it is my duty to speak to you plainly. Ordinarily we can avoid reference to certain things like racial prejudice, racial intolerance, religious bigotry and partisan politics.

"But today we cannot do that. You have got to be cognizant of the fact that a national election is impending. God forbid that I should bring politics into this investigation, but we want you to find out what certain men did and why they did it. 8-10-44

"We have to know what was going on in their hearts and minds that made them spring into action. Something that happens in Philadelphia today, something wherein the truths do not prevail, could have its repercussions in the length and breadth of the land and have its effect on the national election."

Casts Doubt on Racial Issue

Judge Welsh made it plain throughout his forty-minute charge to the eleven men and nine women jurors that he did not believe the "upgrading" of Negroes was the real reason for the strike and urged the jury to leave "no stone unturned in getting at the exact truth behind the strike.

"I can't believe that the men of the PTC were actuated solely and wholly by the thought that eight Negro workers were going to be upgraded to platform jobs," he said. 8-10-44

"Hundreds of these strikers, who were not sick, said they would not work because a man of another color claimed the right to earn a living. Can this be Americanism? I say no, and the working men of America, I'm sure, have a broader sympathy than that, whether they are union or non-union, company union or not.

"It should be your endeavor to learn the real object in the minds of the leaders when this strike was plotted some time ago, for something that must have appealed to a love of power, or love of gain, some great incentive of a worldly nature.

"I know this company set-up pretty well," he said. "It has had several labor groups (the old PRT Employes Association, the company union, the CIO Transport Workers Union, and the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes), and some other groups, and you won't be able to do justice by starting this investigation in the middle. You'll have to investigate the entire set-up, the relations between management and labor groups, before you can find out what motivated this strike."

Judge Welsh told the jurors that they were to determine the identity of the men who engineered the strike. 8-10-44

No One Is Too High or Low

Referring to the four spokesmen for the strikers, already under arrest, he said that "the mere throwing of four men to the wolves" would not solve this problem, though "punishment of them is in the picture." He added:

"Do not let any man hold himself so high that he will have a protective shield about him, nor allow any one to remain so far behind the scenes that he can have a shield of concealment. The court will be at your service day or night, so that you can render a just and outspoken service to your country." 8-10-44

[Attorney General Biddle, in Billings, Mont., en route West, was postponed until tomorrow.

Seamers. One Trainee failed to report.

Philip L. McNamee, regional director of the War Manpower Commission; Major Gen. Hayes, War Department representative in charge of the system, and Dr. A. A. Mitten, president of the company's industrial relations committee, also will testify before the jury.

Seven of the eight Negro motormen trainees, whose "upgrading" provoked the walkout of the company's 6,000 employes, returned to their training. They took trolleys over several regular routes under instructors, but picked up no passengers.

During the afternoon session, the jurors heard testimony from a Federal agent, but the scheduled appearance of Mayor Bernard Samuel and James H. Malone, director of public safety, was postponed until tomorrow.

Meanwhile, armed soldiers continued to ride and guard all PTC

Making the Grade

Philadelphia Strike Warning To Educational System

Daily worker
N.Y., N.Y. 8-16-44

By SARAH WINSTON

Our public schools should have much to learn from reflecting on the experiences of the recent transit walkout in Philadelphia.

No one need be told any longer that the walkout had, among its instigators, objectives that reached far beyond the immediate issue: the upgrading of eight Negro workers. That this was a move to break the Transport Workers Union, to embarrass the national Administration and in general to disrupt war production in the No. 2 war production center in the country—all this has become increasingly plain. 8-16-44

What deserves the msot earnest consideration, especially of educators, is the fact that those who had such objectives were able to find at hand, and to use to good advantage, a lack of community education on the issues of prejudice and its poison.

An incredibly stupid and vicious editorial, written for PM during the height of the crisis by I. F. Stone, sought to ascribe the success of this maneuver to the fact that the much-overrated "common man" was now being seen in his "true" light, with all the inherent weakness and viciousness that Mr. Stone thinks reformers and other such tend to gloss over. This instance comes close to the cynicism of the Daily News, which saw no hope whatsoever of ever resolving the question of Negro-white relationships in this country, it means that there is a huge job of education to be done to root out all the miseducation that anti-Negroism rests on.

EDUCATIONAL SYSTEM

It is a job that must begin, in the most positive and elaborate way, right at the core of our educational system. Heartening successes have been achieved in the last few years by the trade unions, especially those of the CIO, and by a host of community and nationwide interracial organizations. But the very magnitude of the job they have undertaken is evidence of the fact that what is for the great majority of the American people their most prolonged and intensive educational experience—the years that they spend in our public school systems—have failed them in this respect. They have been able to come from as much as twelve years in the grammar and high schools without seeing what is false and fatal in anti-Negroism. 8-16-44

SCHOOLS TAKE CUE

Until the war, this was due in great measure to sheer neglect. Courses in history sinned not so much by the completely inaccurate picture they gave of slavery and of the Reconstruction periods, as by the fact that aside from these references, the Negro in America just never appeared on the scene at all; while you could search pretty far through the literature selected for study without coming across a single dignified and sympathetic presentation of the Negro.

When the war threw a sharp light on the necessity of welding unity among all our people, the schools took their cue; and what had formerly been the work of individual far-sighted teachers, in clubs and classrooms, became a matter of general school planning. In assembly programs, and in such projects as the one in P. S. 253 Brooklyn last spring, interracial and interreligious amity were placed directly before the students.

But two weaknesses must be noted in this step forward. The first is that the directives for the carrying through of such a program have not yet achieved sufficient administrative status Thus they are still able to be ignored at will by individual principals or teachers without any such consequences as would follow a similar disregard of any other directives.

Second, the work is still at the "tolerance" level—a level insufficient altogether to meet the impact of the racists, who know only too well how to convert the "live-and-let-live" formula, under crisis, into its opposite.

Mr. Lunt Goes to Phila.—Some Queries to PTC

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 8-12-44

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA, Aug 11.—Paul S. Lunt is the man who kept Negroes from operating trolleys in Washington, and he was secretely employed by the Philadelphia Transportation Company to do a similar job here, it can be told today.

Federal Judge Welsh indicated, in his charge to the Federal Jury, that it should investigate the possibility of a political conspiracy to influence the 1944 elections.

If Lunt has nothing to fear from the facts that we are now disclosing, he will appear voluntarily as a witness. If Dr. A. A. Mitten has nothing to fear, he will disclose Lunt's whereabouts.

In Washington, Lunt seems to have made the grade—with the Capitol Transit Company.

DID A 'JOB' IN CAPITAL

I just tried to reach him there. "He is no longer in our employ," was the answer. But he is still remembered, and for a good reason.

A long mass campaign had finally forced the Capitol Transit Company to agree to employ Negroes as operators. It was hailed throughout the country as a great victory over Jim-crow. 8-12-44

Lunt, employed by the Capitol Transit Company to make a survey of their employees, prepared a series of questions on Negro employment. His interviewers queried the transit workers.

Angling the interviewers to inflame anti-Negro bias, Lunt brought in his report "it can't be done."

Lunt's "scientifically" proved that it can't be done. It wasn't done.

The scene now shifts to Philadelphia. The Philadelphia Transportation Company, through its company union officers whips up the Negro issue to keep the workers from going CIO. The workers vote CIO. The question of Negroes motormen arises. The Transport Workers Union says O.K. The PTC says: Let's hire Mr. Lunt—to see whether it can be done."

LUNT COMES TO PHILA.

The CIO union checked Mr. Lunt, discovered his Washington survey, turned him down. They didn't want a so-called "scientist" doing PTC's anti-Negro work under guise of an "impartial survey."

The PTC then agreed not to use Lunt. It never objected to the War Manpower Commission order, requiring equal hiring rights for Negroes. The PTC posted a notice on their boards, saying it was being done. They did it—and we know what happened in Philadelphia.

What is not known is the following:

Lunt had been doing a job for PTC for months. He was not on the payroll, who paid him is a secret. However for three to four months he had an office on the 11th floor of the PTC in the Mitten Building—the same floor where Dr. A. A. Mitten has his office. He was commissioned to do a research job. He finished it and turned in his report on July 21. He stayed on for a while, "settling his personal affairs," informant tells us.

I asked Mr. Crogan, of the publicity department:

"What was in Mr. Lunt's report? Where is he now?

Why the secrecy?"

He agreed to look into the matter for me. He came back in several hours with this: "I can't say anything on it. Get in touch with the Army Information Office. They are in charge now."

The Army, however, only issues statements on what has happened since they took over Lunt left when they came in.

Why?

Why did Dr. Mitten secretely employ Mr. Lunt when it had been agreed with the TWU not to have him make a survey?

Was he working out the same kind of report on Negro employment that kept Negroes from operating jobs in Washington?

"So what conspiracy was Dr. Mitten cooking up when he was negotiating a contract with the CIO, while hiding Lunt? What was Dr. Mitten conspiring about when he posted a notice early in July agreeing to the War Manpower Commission fair hiring rules, while on July 21, Lunt turned in his final report? 8-12-44

Was Dr. Mitten's conspiring to overthrow the CIO on the Negro issue, and then come to an agreement with his company union stooges using Lunt's "scientific report" as the door out for Negroes?

The answer to these and similar questions will throw light on Dr. Mittens part in the strike plot.

Letters To The Editor

Communications must carry writer's name and address, though pen names are permitted at the editor's discretion. Letters should be held to not more than 200 words They are subject to condensation

Washington Post
Home Front, D. C.
8-9-44

This is putting the heat on, and it could get pretty warm.

NONUNION WORKER.

Washington, August 6.

Your "Home Front" editorial of August 5 on the Philadelphia transit strike concluded with the point that trade unions should not exclude Negroes from membership. It should be added that the Transport Workers Union (CIO), which has opposed the strike in Philadelphia, includes Negro and white members on an equal footing.

WILLIAM W. STAFFORD.

Washington, August 6.

Your editorial, "Home Front," is very forthright, liberal and is in accord with the best American tradition, now is the time to put aside racial bigotry and use the great reservoir of artisan Negroes, for the largest and most loyal minority group in the country, in the war production effort.

Federal officials have been slow to apply the work-or-fight rules to the Negro. In the past the Negro has been kept in economic slavery that has generally denied to him all but the most menial employment. Even when the war started the Office of Education of the Federal Government denied to Negroes training in trades that were not then open to him.

The Administration's order (FEPC) would seem to be to give Negro employes preference over white applicants from outside the system, and it is evident that the strikers believe it would be merely a question of time until they were crowded out of their jobs by the influx of Negroes."

You state, also, that the strikers declared they were seeking "to protect their jobs and their many years of seniority."

The upgrading of eight Negroes does not threaten the seniority rights of workers already in the system. From developments in this case it is evident that an effort is being made to prevent employment of Negroes as operators, even in small numbers. James McMenamin's statement, "We have won. There are no Negro operators," is clear evidence that the issue is not one of unwarranted preference or of employment of Negroes or of seniority, but rather of unjustifiable denial of the right of Negroes to work on jobs for which they are prepared. The obvious intention of McMenamin is to prevent preparation of Negroes for skilled labor.

ARTHUR E. BURKE.

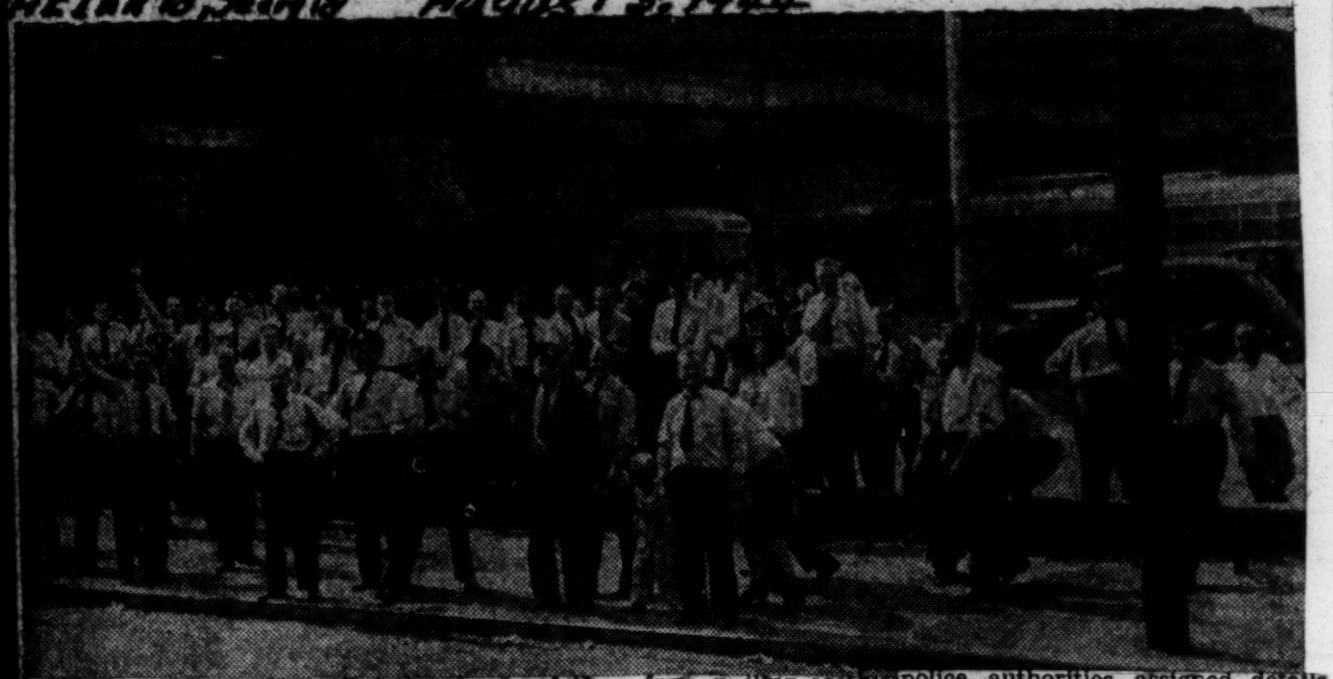
Howard University, Washington, D. C., August 6.

5-9-44

35j-1944

On 'Sick' List; Philly's 'Normandy' Line

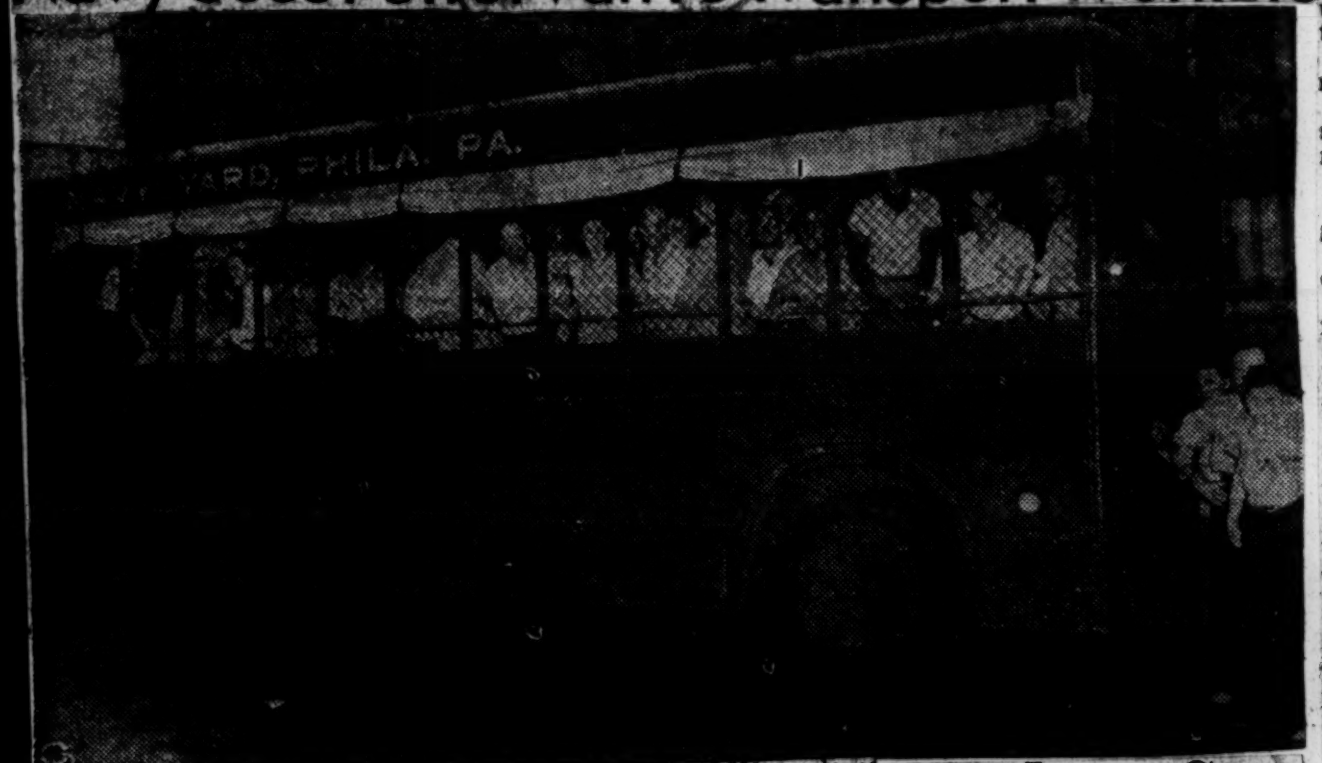
Wash. World-Atlanta, Georgia August 8, 1944



Whatever it was that ailed them and caused Philadelphia's motormen and drivers to report themselves "sick" as they refrained from taking out their trolley cars and buses, the ailment didn't prevent some of them from smiling as this picture was taken at one of the city's car barns. Philadelphia's 2,000,000 population, deprived of normal means of transport, had its own epidemic of sore feet. City police authorities assigned details of patrolmen and detectives to car barns and terminals as riots broke out.

(International Soundphoto)

Navy Uses Patrol Van To Transport Workers



When Philadelphia's Trolleys and buses were tied up by a sudden epidemic of "sickness" among motormen and drivers, officials of the local U. S. Navy Yard borrowed their shore patrol's pride and joy, a specially equipped van sometimes called Black Maria, and pressed it into service as shown above for hauling the yard's 30,000 employes to and from their jobs. With temporary makeshifts like this the city of two million population struggled through its first day of what traction company workers declined to admit was a strike.

(International Soundphoto)

8-3-44

Quaker City Strike Balks

Richmond Times-Dispatch August 8, 1944

Army Chiefs

Roosevelt's Directive In Transit Co. Case Gets Scant Attention There

Strikers Hold Firm

Meddling FEPC Largely Responsible For Strife In Brotherly Love City

Richmond Times-Dispatch Montgomery Ala.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7.—(U.P.)—The United States Army, battling through its first day of operation of the strike-bound Philadelphia Transportation Company system was defied again tonight when the 5,800 strikers refused to make a move for resumption of operations.

After another executive committee meeting, Strike Chairman James H. McMenamin announced to the strikers massed at their car barn headquarters at 7:30 a.m.:

"After receiving recommendations from the chairman of the executive committee, Army officers and city officials, the executive committee has just voted unanimously to maintain the status quo. That means as we are.

"I'll let you know at noon tomorrow of further developments."

He spoke to more than 1,000 strikers who had waited for his report.

8-5-44

Back Their Chairman

"Take care of yourself Mac and get a good rest," one man shouted.

"We're with you kid," yelled others.

A few moments earlier the milling crowd had stood silently at attention as Army officials lowered the American flag from atop the car barn.

In mid-afternoon the strikers also rejected a return-to-work plea of Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, newly installed supervisor of the vast transit network. The executive committee, bolstered by power of attorney to negotiate in behalf of the recalcitrant strikers vetoed work resumption after receiving a report on Army plans.

The strikers were represented at the meeting with Army authorities by their chairman, James McMenamin and three aides. The committee action clouded previous indications that the strikers' representatives were satisfied with their talk with Army officials.

McMenamin emerged from a two-hour session with Hayes and said the discussion was "very fair". He promised to ask the workers to follow the Army's advice in the dispute, but his advice was not heeded.

Standing By Guns

The latest action by the strikers was announced by McMenamin following a meeting of the executive committee outside the company's largest car barns. A crowd of several hundred strikers cheered when McMenamin announced:

8-5-44

"We are not asking anyone to stay out of the cars, but your committee has voted unanimously to stick by its guns."

The strikers were believed holding out for clarification of the Army stand on negroes as potential bus and trolley operators. The training of negroes for operational jobs precipitated the four-day tie-up which last night resulted in President Roosevelt's order for seizure of the entire system.

Army seizure of the company was met with immediate defiance by the strikers. Strong arm squads of recalcitrant workers visited subway and elevated stations and threatened small numbers of men who returned to work to put the city's transit facilities under limited service.

Police squadrons were kept busy rushing to danger spots as the strikers disregarded a warning by Hayes that penalties provided by the War Labor Disputes act would be imposed on those retarding resumption of transit operations.

8-5-44

Protection Pledged

Some of the men were reported willing to return to work but feared physical violence. Superintendent of Police Howard Sutton promised Hayes that adequate police protection would be afforded all those wishing to get back to their jobs. Police in groups of 50 were dispatched to the company's eight principal depots to travel on buses and trolleys.

The precautionary measures by police were backed by the arrival of 1,000 armed troops who made a brief appearance on city streets en route to an unannounced destination.

Transit service, while meager, was continuous on the Broad Street subway and Market Street elevated line — the company's main intersecting arteries — during the carly morning hours. As the day wore on however, Army officials reported that the subway and elevated trains would be inadequate to meet the homebound rush period.

Three trolley lines were operating through the morning, but by late afternoon, only one continued. Service generally was regarded as "very limited" and Philadelphia war workers and office personnel looked forward to another day of returning home via makeshift means of transportation.

In line with Hayes' warnings to the strikers that continued interference would result in criminal prosecution, Henry A. Schweinhaut, special assistant to U. S. Attorney General Francis Biddle, came to Philadelphia from Washington.

Biddle said that Schweinhaut will seek particularly evidence of violations of the Smith-Connally war labor disputes act. Four FBI agents addressed the crim-strikers at their main stamping grounds at 10th and Luzerne Streets, explaining the legal penalties which can be imposed on them for violations.

8-5-44

Biddle Sees Strike Conspiracy

By the Associated Press

BILLINGS, Mont., Aug. 9.—Attorney General Francis Biddle, last night en route coast by plane praised Gen. Philip Hayes for stopping here the work of Negro employees of the company is carried out.

Phila. Transit Blockade Led By Anti-Negro, Anti-FDR Clique

The Worker — New York, N.Y.

By WALTER LOWENFELS 8-6-44

PHILADELPHIA.—A company union blitz against the war snuffed out Philadelphia's transportation system this week. It was aided and abetted by political opponents of the Roosevelt administration. It was almost universally condemned by all ranks of Philadelphians.

Douglas MacMahon, secretary of the CIO Transport Workers Union whose efforts to return the men to work has been helped by civic and government leaders, told a back-to-work meeting of CIO shop stewards Wednesday afternoon:

"The strike was whipped up by a small group of discredited company union and AFL supporters on the property, together with James McMenian, organizer for the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen."

Behind this strike group stand powerful interests in the company, and in the Republican city administration. 8-6-44

The hiring of eight Negroes as operators was used Tuesday morning as a pretext to coerce workers off the cars. However, the anti-war, anti-Roosevelt motives became clear as the stoppage progressed. Thursday morning, at the Woodland Depot, CIO leaders exhorted the men to return to work. The majority of them wanted to do so. They were dominated by a small belligerent group who were openly anti-war, anti-Roosevelt, anti-Negro.

"Do you want OPA to run the country? Do you want your daughter to marry a Negro? Roosevelt got us into the war in the first place." This was the way the small group talked.

The Republican city administration dominated by the Pew interests, supplied one elderly policeman as protection. They made no efforts either to provide adequate police protection or to announce that workers, many of whom are elderly, who took cars would have sufficient guards. 8-6-44

THE COMPANY'S HAND

When the strike got going, Tuesday morning, company supervisors and foremen openly urged workers to stop operations. Furthermore the company allowed its property to be used for strike meetings. When 350 CIO shop stewards voted to organize a return to work movement Wednesday the barns were closed.

The enforcement of War Manpower Commission anti-discrimination regulations precipitated the strike. Dr. A. Mitten, spokesman for the Philadelphia Transportation Company proposed on Tuesday that the War Manpower Commission suspend its fair hiring rules. Negro and white leaders told Dr. Mitten that this would provoke race riots. Nevertheless, great pressure was exerted throughout the week to void the WMC fair hiring rules. It was only the firm stand of the CIO union for obedience to the WMC and the President's fair hiring order, that kept the company from provoking a serious racial disturbance.

Even so, there were minor racial clashes in Negro areas with a number of smashed windows, broken heads and several hundred arrests.

James Fitzsimons, international vice president of the Transport Workers Union wired Attorney General Francis Biddle on Tuesday urging an investigation of those who instigated the strike.

"Our investigations show very suspicious circumstances surrounding the instigation of this strike. Sinister forces lurking in the background indicate that this is a delicate attempt to incite race riots for the purpose of disrupting war production." 8-6-44

LAY BLAME

Both the CIO Industrial Union Council and the NAACP have charged that the company union activities of the PTC management must share responsibility for the stoppage.

The management, together with the company union, has used the Negro issue since the CIO started its organizing drive. **Three weeks ago, E. Washington Rhodes, publisher of the Philadelphia Tribune, and one of the city's Negro leaders told this correspondent:**

"The PTC is the spearhead for anti-Negro agitation in this city."

Before the CIO won bargaining rights by a majority of over 2½ to one last March, the company used a clause in its company union "contract" to oppose upgrading Negroes to operating position, such as they have in New York, Detroit, and many other cities. 8-6-44

The company union threatened to strike last December at a hearing before the Fair Employment Practices Commission and repeated its strike threat in March at a hearing before the Smith Congressional Committee in Washington, where the war powers of the President were attacked.

The company this week denied knowledge of typewritten notices posted several weeks ago on its property, urging workers to strike rather than work with Negroes.

The new contract was scheduled to be signed with the CIO this Friday. Monday night, a meeting of some fifty anti-CIO workers was held. Early Tuesday morning, flying squads visited the barns and depots and kept the operators from working. 8-6-44

TWU leader James Fitzsimons broadcast to the people of Philadelphia Wednesday night that company union strike leaders "who were repudiated by the workers of PTC are now trying to make a comeback over the dead bodies of American boys on the beachheads of France."

Biddle Awaits Investigation Of War Dep't

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.

Congress Delays In Amendment Of Protective Act

8-4-44

BY HARRY S. McALPIN

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA) The Depatment of Justice is waiting on the report of the war Department investigations before it moves on the recent slaying in cold-blood of Pvt. Booker T. Specoly in Durham, N. C., by a white bus driver according to Victor Rotnem, chief of the Civil Rights division of the department.

Congress is waiting for "the Lorld only knows what" to pass the amendment to the United States statutes that would include enlisted persons in the Army, Navy Marines and the Coast Guard among these federal officers the killing or assaulting of whom while on duty is made offense. (Senate bill 1227—passed in February, 1944, now pending in the House Judiciary Committeee, where a sub-commitee only recently made a favorable report on it). 8-4-44

LIFE ENDANGERED

In the meantime—while Nero fiddles—every Negro soldier stationed in the South or who has occasion to go South runs a risk of losing his life at the hands of a white bus driver or civilian as though he were facing robot bombs in England or enemy gunfire in Normandy.

According to observers here, it is highly unusual procedure for the Department of Justice, with its vaunted investigation unit, the FBI to wait on the results of an investigation by the War Department before preceding to take action in so flagrant a case as the North Carolina slaying of Pvt. Specoly. It is reliably reported that bus drivers in North Carolina are deputized as peace officers of the state, which if true, brings the crime under the civil rights statutes of the United States code.

The bus driver, Herman Lee Council, has been indicted by the Durham County Grand Jury for the slaying. NAACP attorneys plan to aid in his prosecution.

ROTNEM BLAMED 8-4-44

The incident and the delay in federal action are pointed to as another instance of procrastination on the part of Victor Rotnem, whose duty it is to enforce the Civil Rights of American citizens covered by the federal laws of the land, regardless of pending elections or fear of reprisal from the Texas chairman of the House Judiciary Committee Hatton W. Summers.

The delay on the part of Congress in passing the bill, S. 1227, is inexplicable. The measure was adopted without dissent in the Senate on February 15, 1944. It was referred to the House Judiciary Committee on February 17, 1944. Almost six months have passed, and the only action taken so far has been a favorable report of the House Sub-Committee on the measure. 8-4-44

The bill was introduced in the Senate on the basis of a letter dated June 10. 1943, addressed to Sen. Robert Reynolds, chairman of the Senate Military Affairs by the Secretary of War. It seeks only to expand the present federal law to cover enlisted persons in the Army Navy and Marines. The law already covers members of the Coast Guard.

Although the proposed amendment of the law likely would not cover the slaying of a soldier while on leave—he not being then "engaged in the performance of his official duties,' it would cover a case like the slaying of Raymond Carr, military policeman on duty in Alexandria, La., by a state police man seveal months ago. 8-4-44

BEHIND PHILADELPHIA CRISIS

The Philadelphia rapid-transit strike continues in defiance of the United States Army. The ugly situation revealed by the strike remains. In the background there may have been an inter-union struggle, with James McMenamin's "general emergency committee" trying to undermine the Transport Workers Union. But Mr. McMenamin resorted to a weapon which the TWU and the parent CIO have specifically adjured. He called in race prejudice. He and his followers are willing to paralyze a city of two million people, to cut war production, to impede war shipments—and for what purpose? Not for more pay. Not for better working conditions. No, in his own words, to "get a written guarantee that there will be no further hiring of colored operators and no further instruction of the colored operators now in training." In Mr. McMenamin's opinion colored soldiers may be good enough to risk their lives in battle for their country. They are not good enough to operate a Philadelphia street car.

Mr. McMenamin and his followers have refused to call off their strike after the Federal Government has taken over and after the Army has announced that it will operate the Philadelphia rapid-transit system with or without their aid. They are now under threat of legal penalties. The suspicion has been voiced that persons hostile to the war purposes of the United States had something to do with stirring up this trouble. But why should this sinister achievement have been possible? One can't believe that six thousand rapid-transit workers deliberately set out to make a mockery of collective bargaining, to stir up racial conflict, to weaken the fighting fronts, prolong the war and lengthen the American casualty lists.

They cannot have had these things in mind. Let us say that some, perhaps a good many, went out because they were afraid not to—afraid of violence, afraid of being abused, afraid of being

8-5-44

considered disloyal to their fellows such prejudice. They are trying to de- one must hope and believe, also, that ll be no weakening on the ue of equal opportunity in ent, without regard to race This is a case where compro- uld be indecent. There must remain a good many oth- stroy American democracy from within there will be rs, the dominant element, who struck just as earnestly as the Nazis and basic issue o because their minds were distorted by a Japanese are trying to destroy it from employment, mean and ignorant prejudice. We all without. Their poor dupes in Philadel- or creed. This know that there are organized groups phia seem to have learned little dur- is a country whose leaders fatten ing the past four days. Nevertheless

35j-1944

U. S. Judge Hints Phila. Strike Was Political Plot

Wilkes New York 8-13-44

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA.—The Philadelphia transit tie-up plot was a widespread political conspiracy designed to influence the 1944 presidential election. This was clearly implied in the historic charge Judge Welsh delivered to the Federal Grand Jury this week.

"You have got to be cognizant," said the judge with deep feeling, "that a national election is pending. God forbid, I don't want to bring politics into this. But we must find out what certain men did and why they did it. . . . Remember, there is a crisis in the history of the country, something that happens in Philadelphia today, something wherein truth did not prevail, could have its repercussions in the length and breadth of the land and have its effect on a national election." 8-13-44

Judge Welsh made it clear that he was not referring to the four "white supremacy" leaders.

"Find out for whom they were acting," he said. "Don't be fooled and pin an illegitimate child on the wrong father."

Before the Grand Jury investigation opened, Michael Quill, head of the Transport Workers Union, which fought for the right of the eight Negroes to be upgraded, cited facts to show:

1—The strike was engineered by the PTC management.

2—It was aided and abetted by Orville Bullitt, head of the local War Production Board. His brother is the infamous William C. Bullitt, who turned Paris over to the Nazis in 1940.

3—It was helped along by the local Republican administration, including the Mayor and the police.

How did this conspiracy plan to effect the national election, as charged by Judge Welsh? What did the distinguished jurist refer to when he spoke of "repercussions in the length and breadth of the land?" 8-13-44

The answer is, according to Negro leaders with whom we have spoken, that the "white supremacy" plot was aimed at provoking a major race riot in Philadelphia. Outbreaks here would have been the signal for a series of bloody Detroit massacres in major war centers throughout the country. A widespread fascist demonstration was nipped in the bud by President Roosevelt.

These charges are based on the following facts: Both Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of the PTC Industrial Relations, and Orville Bullitt, proposed to rescind the presidential order on fair hiring as a price for ending the tie-up.

Frank MacNamee, regional War Manpower Commission chief has stated publicly that Dr. Mitten made such a proposal.

CIO ADAMANT 8-13-44

It was only the determined stand of the CIO, and the major government officials, except for Bullitt, that foiled the Mitten plot.

"I told Dr. Mitten," said MacNamee, "that the War Manpower Commission has no power to vacate a presidential order."

What would have happened had the PTC conspiracy succeeded?

"Hell would have broken loose," said E. Washington Rhodes. "It would have provided another Reichstag fire for the fascists in this country," said Arthur Huff Fauset.

"Provocations by white supremacy elements would have created the situation the fascists wanted. Riots would have spread from Philadelphia to other cities. The Roosevelt administration would have been discredited. The war would have been imperiled."

It was this deep and bloody plot that the President's prompt action in sending the troops, and putting the eight Negro trainees on the trolleys, defeated. 8-13-44

BUT IT BOOMERANGED

The transit plot has boomeranged. Philadelphia has been shaken to its roots. Throughout the city, dozens of meetings to unite the people against the enemy are being held. Negro and white, Jew and gentile, honest Republicans are fighting with Democrats and Communists for everyone realizes the enemy is still strong.

"Something is going to pop," said one strike leader as he returned to work last week, "when the Army gets out. But don't ask me what it will be."

Meanwhile the first labor contract between the Transport Workers Union and the Philadelphia Transportation Company was signed in the company offices on the 12th floor of the Mitten Building, Wednesday night.

Present at the signing were Michael J. Quill, president, Transport Workers Union, Douglas MacMahon, secretary-treasurer of the TWU, Harry Sacher, TWU general counsel, and the local negotiating committee of 33 PTC workers headed by James Fitzsimon, international vice-president of the TWU, in charge of the organizing campaign for Local 234. 8-13-44

The contract provides for improvement in wages and working conditions amounting to a total of $3,000,000 for the 9,300 PTC workers. Included in the contract is a standard War Labor Board union security clause with maintenance of membership and check-off rights. The contract is retroactive to Feb. 11, 1944 and runs to Feb. 10, 1945 and will be submitted immediately to the WLB for approval. On approval, employees will receive back pay checks, from Feb. 11 to the date of the WLB decision.

Philadelphia Transit Strike Leaders Fired

Washington Post
Washington, D.C.
8-8-44

Only 13 Workers Fail to Return; U. S. Seeking 'Big Fish'

Philadelphia, Aug. 7 (AP).—Uncle Sam restored Philadelphia's transportation to normal today, guarded every vehicle against violence, fired four leaders of the wildcat transit walkout, and assembled material for presentation to a Federal grand jury convening Wednesday to investigate the strike.

The Army was running the Philadelphia Transportation Co., which it seized Thursday night, but no soldiers were required to operate any bus, trolley, elevated or subway train. All except 13 of the 6000 operators employed returned to work on schedule to meet the Army's "work or be fired" ultimatum. This compared with an average absenteeism of 9.5 during the last three months.

Of the 13 employes who failed to report, an Army spokesman said "it is not yet known how many of them will be able to present medical certificates of illness to excuse their absence."

Negroes "Awaiting Calls"

There was almost unanimous "sickness" reported among the employes as they walked out in protest against the upgrading of eight Negroes to trolley motormen. One of the eight Negroes appeared today to resume instruction, appearing at a car barn suddenly quiet. After an hour, he was sent home to await a call. Apparently the other seven also were awaiting calls.

An Army spokesman, questioned as to the Negro trainees' status, said: 8-8-44

"Our first duty is to get these roads back into normal operation and make sure that operation stays normal. Everything else will be taken up in order."

Asked whether the four dismissed strike leaders would be denied job referrals, the spokesman said that was a matter for the War Manpower Commission. The WMC said the problem had not arisen yet.

Going After "Big Fish"

FBI agents probed deeper into underlying causes of the strike, called without warning last Tuesday, which cut war production, caused racial clashes, and inconvenienced 1,500,000 daily riders in the Nation's third largest city and second largest war material producing center.

"We're going after the big fish," a Federal investigator said.

Two score or more witnesses were expected to be called before the grand jury, including strikers, PTC officials, and members of the Transport Workers Union (CIO), who denounced the stoppage and accused company officials of "collusion."

The four strike leaders, dismissed as they appeared for work, were James H. McMenamin, 43, husky, curly-haired chairman of the strike committee; Vice Chairman William C. Dixey; Frank P. Carney, four times president of the company union, displaced as bargaining agent by the TWU, and Frank Thompson, frequent spokesman for McMenamin.

All four are free on $2500 bonds awaiting hearing August 14 on charges of violating the Smith-Connally Wartime Anti-Strike Act, to which they pleaded innocent.

McMenamin told the strikers "You return to work at the point of a bayonet." 8-8-44

All Soldiers, Hayes Says

Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, touring the car barns, told the returning workers:

"You're all soldiers even though you're not in uniform. Any man who isn't back on his job at the scheduled time—zip! He will get no job anywhere for the duration—and the duration may be a long time."

The only trouble the soldiers riding the conveyances reported was "trolley fatigue."

"You get bounced around so much, you feel like the original jumping bean," said one.

War production roared back to normal as Philadelphia's "nightmare week" ended.

Defends Phila. Hate Inciters in Senate

By Federated Press

WASHINGTON, Aug. 9.—A southern poll taxer stood on the floor of the United States Senate today and warned the Fair Employment Practice Committee not to "attempt to repeat the Philadelphia story in any large city of the south."

The charge came from Sen. Richard B. Russell (D-Ga.) in a long and bitter attack on the FEPC, which he charged was solely responsible, for the Philadelphia traction strike.

Russell defended the strike leaders who were arrested by the government and discharged from their jobs by the army for causing the walkout that seriously hampered war production in America's No. 2 war center.

"The implications and causes of the strike are so deep, so far reaching, as to constitute a threat to management was broken by an it up. national unity," Russell said. He charged that the FEPC is attempting to make the "country conform to its radical principles" and that it taking a position in favor of no dis- crimination against any worker by age than an army of saboteurs." He reason of race, color or creed. Instead, he charged that the FEPC ordered the contract broken and called upon the "force of arms of the United States Army" to back up its way it will do more damage to the Philadelphia traction strike.

Russell also did explain to the Senate that the contract between the company union and the management was broken by an it up.

"The implications and causes of the strike are so deep, so far reaching, as to constitute a threat to management national unity," Russell said. He charged that the FEPC is attempting to make the "country conform to its radical principles" and that it taking a position in favor of no dis- crimination against any worker by age than an army of saboteurs." He

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Not once did Russell explain to the Senate that the contract between the company union and the management was broken by an it up.

demanded that President Roosevelt dismiss all of its personnel immediately and protested against the dismissal of the strike leaders, saying, "I don't approve of the starvation method of strike-breaking."

After a long account of the entry of the army into the city and the breaking of the outlaw strike, Russell said he was forced to the conclusion that "these unusually drastic means were to serve as an object lesson to all other employees who might defy the FEPC."

Philadelphia Strike Brings Out Troops To Control Transit

Soldiers To Run Vehicles As Needed; Strikers Get 'Work Or Fight' Order; Federal Grand Jury Will Investigate

PHILADELPHIA—(AP)—Thousands of troops in full battle dress streamed into Philadelphia by truck convoy and train Saturday under orders to restore service on the city's strike-paralyzed transit lines, and the Army, declaring "the war cannot wait," said soldiers will "operate vehicles" wherever necessary effective at 12:01 a.m. Monday.

National Selective Service in Washington issued a blunt "work-or-fight" order cancelling occupational deferments of all involved in the five-day-old strike.

Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, who seized the lines Thursday night by order of President Roosevelt, warned that any of the 6,000 strikers who failed to return would be fired "at once" and said armed soldiers will "ride as guards on every bus, trolley, subway or elevated train that runs over this system.

* * *

"SOLDIERS WILL BE USED only to operate vehicles which otherwise would remain idle," Hayes said.

Hayes threw the full weight of federal law and might at the strikers in a climatic effort to end an unauthorized stoppage that has slashed vital war production, caused race violence and inconvenienced a city of more than 2,000,000.

He denied them referral to any other jobs.

He announced that none would be granted unemployment compensation.

He disclosed the selective service order cancelling deferments.

And he announced that the FBI and the Department of Justice "have been requested to invoke" the Smith-Connally anti-strike act providing fines and imprisonment for any striking against government-operated industry.

* * *

EVEN AS HE RELEASED THE STATEMENT, Atty. Gen. Biddle in Washington ordered a Grand Jury investigation.

"Each day this transit system is idle we lose desperately needed guns, trucks, ammunition, radar equipment and other critical material because workers cannot get to their jobs," he said.

"If we were losing similar quantities of material as a result of enemy action we would not hesitate to take drastic steps to end our losses. In this case, where the lives of our fighting men and the progress of the war are involved, we must be equally decisive."

Troops began arriving in mid-city before Hayes' announcement.

Helmeted soldiers with fixed bayonets leaped from trucks at some residential street intersections and took over direction of traffic.

ELEMENTS OF TWO INFANTRY REGIMENTS were seen on speeding vehicles and about 150 military policemen arrived at the Pennsylvania Railroad's 30th Street Station.

As the 6,000 strikers continued defiance of the Army, which seized the lines Thursday night by order of President Roosevelt, a high source said they would be given one more chance to return to their jobs.

* * *

MEANWHILE BUSES, TROLLEYS AND BROAD STREET SUBWAY TRAINS remained out of operation for the fifth day and 6,000 strikers—protesting the promotion of eight Negro workers to drivers jobs—again defied back-to-work orders of the Army, which seized the paralyzed lines Thursday night by order of President Roosevelt.

Race violence—which caused injury to many earlier in the strike—had subsided.

The Army, with returned workers, kept only 10 trains running on the Market Street elevated Saturday — against a normal of 42 — and policemen rode each to guard operators.

Gen. Hayes said Friday that workers attempting to return were prevented by "threats."

Michael J. Quill, international president of the CIO Transport Workers Union, the workers' bargaining agent which has condemned the walkout, said Saturday that "if troops were ordered into action here tomorrow 95 per cent of the workers now idle would go back. . . . "There is need for strong action . . . to protect the workers who are ready and willing to operate the transit system."

The strike began when eight newly upgraded Negroes were to have driven trolleys for the first time on test runs. Their promotion, protested by both the company and employe groups, had been ordered by the War Manpower Commission under its employment stabilization program.

The strike committee, which has said work will resume only when there is written assurance that Negroes will not be given operating jobs, met twice Saturday but made no announcement immediately.

* * *

A STRIKE OF TRUCK DRIVERS in Minneapolis spread to Kansas City and Omaha Saturday and brought to more than 31,000 the number of idle workers in the United States and Canada.

The new stoppages were offset by settlements which sent or promised to send about 11,200 employes back to work.

In Minneapolis-St. Paul, 1,500 over-the-road AFL truck drivers and helpers left their jobs in an outbreak of the long-standing dispute between drivers and truck owner members of the Midwest Operators Association.

The Kansas City strike tied up nine of the large over-the-road lines. The drivers' refusal to take the vans out was described by a union representative as unauthorized. No estimate was immediately available of the number of men involved there or in Omaha, where two lines already were closed and 12 to 15 threatened to be affected by Monday.

* * *

TANK CONSTRUCTION IN THE ST. LOUIS CAR COMPANY PLANT was halted by a dispute between the management and members of the CIO United Steel Workers over a piecework pay scale in one department. A union spokesman said the walkout of 1,200 employes was unauthorized.

Three hundred Negro chippers, who stopped work at the General Steel Castings Corporation, Granite City, Ill., July 27, voted to return to their jobs Monday. The strike affected 4,300 workers.

In compliance with a War Labor Board directive, 5,700 strikers at John A. Roebling's Sons and Company, Roebling and Trenton, N. J., returned to work. Eight hundred distribution workers of Public Service Gas & Electric Company, Newark, N. J., and 11 neighboring cities, voted to resume work, and strikes of 300 persons at Acme Steel & Malleable Iron Works, Buffalo, N. Y., and of 100 at the Reading, Pa., Street Railway Company also were ended.

* * *

SETTLEMENT SUNDAY OF THE DETROIT STRIKE at General Motors' Chevrolet gear and axle division was predicted by a CIO-United Auto Workers official. The dispute, which involves 7,000 employes, threatened closing of five other plants.

Transportation tie-ups continued to plague Montreal, kith 4,000 idle, though alerting of Canadian workers for a possible week-end meeting pointed to a settlement of the dispute.

Nineteen additional strikes covering 12,000 persons continued throughout the nation, including three war plant walkouts in Illinois — at Libbey-Owens-Ford, Ottawa; Carbondale Ordnance, and International Harvester, Canton.

Subway Crews Walk Out Again: Race Rioting Hits City

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 2.—(AP)—An attempt to restore subway service here flickered out tonight and confronted President Roosevelt with the problem of solving the transportation paralysis that has caused curtailment of war production and racial outbreaks to posts here.

Some subway crews who had been participating in the stoppage resumed their jobs without advance public notice and operated trains for two hours, then suddenly went home.

A spokesman for the Philadelphia Transportation Company, operators of all the city's subways, surface cars and buses, said he did not know whether anybody had returned to work "just walked out on us again."

He added that he did not know whether anybody had said anything to them or not."

The two-day tie-up, back where it started, has precipitated race riots between whites and Negroes, inconvenienced 1,500,000 daily riders and curtailed war production.

PTC officials said their 6,000 employes had walked out in protest at the upgrading of eight Negroes to motormen.

The return of the situation to work in Washington

The strike began when eight newly upgraded Negroes were to have driven trolleys for the first time on test runs. Their promotion, protested by both the company and employe groups, had been ordered by the War Manpower Commission under its employment stabilization program.

The strike committee, which has said work will resume only when there is written assurance that Negroes will not be given operating jobs, met twice Saturday but made no announcement immediately.

No Brotherly Love in Phila. For Clique Behind Transit Strike

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 6.—Support for the President's action in seizing the PTC and demands for army action to end the strike were voiced yesterday by all Philadelphia newspapers, along with dozens of organizations, civic leaders, and hundreds of thousands of people walking the street.

* * *

Philadelphia Inquirer: "How long can the strikers defy their government and public opinion. It's up to the army to end this strike."

* * *

Philadelphia Bulletin: "Nobody has yet successfully defied the Army—not even Hitler and his Axis partners. . . . There is reason to believe it will do its job."

* * *

Philadelphia Record: "PTC strikers compel Uncle Sam to get tough." The Record calls for: Soldiers at car barns and on every vehicle. Arrests of strike leaders. A grand jury investigation to include those "behind the scenes."

Paul McNutt, WMCA chief, has declared there will be no relaxation of WMC anti-discrimination rules.

James P. McGranery, Assistant to U. S. Attorney General, said:

"The United States government will not compromise one iota in the regulations of the Fair Employment Practices Committee or the U. S. Employment service requiring fair opportunities for employment of Negroes."

* * *

FBI GATHERING DATA

Evidence is being compiled by 30 FBI agents.

* * *

Newspaper letter columns are filled with condemnation of strikers, demanding use of troops and government prosecution. Only a few letters uphold strikers.

* * *

The junior board of commerce termed the stoppage "rank sabotage" and condemned strikers as postponing the day of victory. Dozens of other organizations issued statements denouncing the strike and asking for troops and trials. They include: The International Workers Order, Local 155, and District 1, United Electrical and Radio Workers, the United Cannery Agricultural and Packing Workers; International Fur and Leather Workers; the National Maritime Union.

The United People's Action Committee, headed by Arthur Huff Fauset, along with the NAACP which was the dynamo in the campaign to upgrade Negroes on the PTC, announced a radio program and additional leaflets calling for unity.

* * *

Religious organizations who insisted that Negro workers be em-

Philadelphia Walking Again

35j-1944

Cleveland, Boston Negro Leaders Applaud FDR Stand in Philadelphia

Daily Worker, New York 8-10-44

By BETTY RILEY

CLEVELAND, Aug. 9—Local Negro leaders are outspoken in their praise for President Roosevelt's action in the Philadelphia strike situation. 8-10-44

"Lauding the government's action in Philadelphia, W. O. Walker, city councilman and editor of the Cleveland Call and Post, stated that "sending the army in was a necessary step to enforce the decisions of the FEPC and the only answer that could have been given to the management and discredited company union leaders, who sought to stir up race trouble as a cover for their fight against the CIO. . . . It was a clear-cut case of defiance of government authority."

Watkins Davis, President of the Ohio Negro Democratic Alliance, says that "Republicans in Philadelphia started the fight in an effort to discredit Roosevelt and the CIO. The company and its independent union brought up the Negro question in an effort to block the CIO. President Roosevelt handled the situation well. The CIO and government never rescinded their policy for the upgrading of Negroes.

"When the showdown came, the Government did a splendid job. The basis of the trouble was not racial; the race issue was stirred up to make trouble for Roosevelt and the CIO. 8-10-44

DISRUPTERS' WORK

"The working people of Philadelphia are not for this. It was the work of a small group of disrupters, the government's action of sending in the Army will guarantee that such disrupter will not try the same thing in other communities."

Greeting the President's action as putting teeth in FEPC enforcement, Oscar Rucker, secretary of Local 735 and trustee of the Ohio district of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, called for "rooting out fifth column forces in Philadelphia and their prosecution as an example to the whole nation."

Admiral Kilpatrick, international representative of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, hit at "reactionary forces who disrupted war production and seryiced Hitler in their effort to split the Negro and white workers in Philadelphia. They wanted to turn the Negro citizens against the powerful CIO union by led by Michael Quill.

"The Negroes deserved the upgrading and it is right and just that President Roosevelt should support democracy in the United States by sending the Army in to get the transportation system working and to enforce the decisions of the FEPC. 8-10-44

BOSTON, Mass., Aug. 9.—President Roosevelt's prompt action in ordering the Army to take over the Philadelphia transit system was applauded today by three Negro leaders who added that such action must become even firmer against the opponents of Negro upgrading.

Julian D. Steele, Republican, president of the Boston branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People and executive director of the Armstrong-Homenway Foundation, said that FDR's promptness eased a situation which might have become another Detroit debacle.

"No solution will be acceptable," he said, "except the upgrading of Negro transit workers and the prosecution of those persons who incite walkouts on account of their opposition to such upgrading."

Chester A. Eaton, chairman of New England District, Local 370, AFL dining car employes, spoke out against appeasement of those responsible for the walkout. He particularly singled out transit company officials when he said, "That advice goes for company officials who encourage inter-racial discord in an effort to weaken organized labor." 8-10-44

William Harrison, associate editor of the Boston Chronicle and vice-president of the Communist Political Association in Massachusetts, also pointed out that a vicious attempt at disrupting national unity through halting war production was averted only by the quick action of FDR.

"Furthermore," he stated, "the arrest of strike leaders shows a laudably alert determination to punish the elements whose incitement caused damage to war production and sought to pit Negro Americans against white Americans, to the aid and comfort of our Axis enemies.

"Backed by the American people, the administration should be resolute in executing its policy of upgrading Negro workers," he said.

"Every American should back up the stand taken by the Transport Workers Union and demand that the company officials, the radio officials and the local politicians implicated in this strike should be prosecuted as well as the small-fry leaders."

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES. 8-11-44

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 10—The War Manpower Commission "froze" 12,000 employes of the Philadelphia Transportation Company in their jobs today and ordered that they stay in them until the Army decrees that the strike emergency is ended and turns the transit system back to private owners. 8-11-44

The Army took over operation of the company Aug. 8 after a walkout of more than 5,000 employes who maintained they left their jobs because of the "upgrading" of Negroes to be motormen.

Besides freezing the personnel of the company, the WMC order also bars the PTC from hiring new employes until the Army moves out.

The WMC order came as the Federal grand jury, investigating the PTC strike, spent an entire session hearing testimony of Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of the PTC industrial relations committee.

Text of Charge to Phila. Jury on Race Strike

Daily Worker New York N.Y. 8-10-44

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9.—Following is the text of the charge delivered to the Grand Jury, investigating the alleged conspiracy behind the Philadelphia transit race strike, which tied up the city for a week, crippled war production and incited anti-Negro hatreds. The charges were made by Federal Judge George A. Welsh.

I am glad the motion for this investigation was made. I think you will be glad it was made, and I'm sure the citizens of the country will. It is with mixed feelings that I sit upon this bench in a priestly office and take the responsibility of charging you on this subject.

This is different from any investigation I have ever directed or known. Jurors usually are called upon to investigate crimes. You are called to probe into a crime or series of crimes if they exist, but you are asked to inquire into something more, the terrible economic loss caused by the strike of a week ago.

This strike caused serious disruption of wartime preparations and also caused chaos and confusion in a community that was doing its best to meet a crisis in the nation's history. 8-10-44

It did more. It struck a blow at a sacred cause with a capital C at a time when thousands of our boys on the battlefront are trying to make this cause a living cause in a dark world. It struck at this cause here where the Declaration of Independence was conceived, and within sound of the slightest tap of the Liberty Bell, where everything should spell toleration and civilization. You are to determine the identity of the men who engineered such a strike. They should have had an overwhelming sense of injustices to strike such a blow and therefore should have made a declaration of any grievance.

It came, however, as a bolt from the blue. The reason given for it was one of intolerance and racial hatred. No one has more respect for the rights of working men to strike in redress of a real wrong than this court. But a strike should be to redress a wrong and not to resist a right to be conferred on another group simply because of its color. 8-10-44

The strikers exalted the cause of racial prejudice. But have they given us the real reason for the strike? I hope it was not the real reason. What can we say to the people of Asia and the rest of the Christian world if the doctrine of racial hatred is to be passed over without protest? If race hatred was the real reason then we must not be quiet or take it lying down. We must punish the men who called such a strike and say emphatically that they do not represent the people of this community or the men who are fighting for democracy.

Hundreds of these strikers, who were not sick, said they would not work because a man of another color claimed the right to earn a living. Can this be Americanism? I say no, and the working men of America, I'm sure, have a broader sympathy than that, whether they are union or non-union, company union or not.

Leave no stone unturned in getting at the exact truth of this situation. It should be your endeavor to learn the real object in the minds of the leaders when this strike was plotted sometime ago, for something that must have appealed to a love of power or love of gain, some great incentive of a worldly nature. 8-10-44

I had the PTC reorganization litigation before me for six years, and at its conclusion felt happy that the company was then in good shape—that the water had been squeezed out of the stock, and that the workmen would get an honest wage. But, three years later, along comes this horrible spectacle.

In order to get the true picture in this investigation you must go into the corporate structure of the transit company, and also its labor setup, where you will find that four different labor groups were vieing for domination.

You can't do justice unless you know something of this setup.

You can's do justice unless you know something of what motivated the leaders three years ago. Some-

Strange Behavior of Philly GOP City Fathers in Strike

Worker—New York, N.Y. 8-10-44

By HARRY RAYMOND

8-13-44

PHILADELPHIA.—No group acted more strangely during the six-day "white supremacy" streetcar, subway and bus stoppage—that lawless demonstration that scrapped 5,000,000 man hours of vital war production—than did the Republican administration of this city.

Ask any Philadelphian what action Mayor Bernard Samuel took to avert this dangerous and violent crisis and he will find it difficult to give an answer. I have talked to political partisans of the Mayor and they, too, found it had to explain with any satisfaction what the administration was up to during those half-dozen hectic days.

Evidence shows the city administration, instead of opposing the jim-crow demonstration and using its vast power and resources to end it, actually welcomed it. All the city fathers' actions—or lack of action—indicated they felt here at last was a partisan weapon to put President Roosevelt's fair labor practices policy on the spot, to strike a blow at legitimate trade unionism, which, in the main, is backing the President for re-election.

8-13-44

MAYOR SILENT

When a band of hoodlums went from carbarn to carbarn during the early dawn of Aug. 1 shouting to operators to strike against Negroes taking their jobs (actually eight Negroes were at that time starting their training as operators and not a single job was at stake) neither the Mayor nor Director of Public Safety James A. Malone made a single move to expose the lie and put down the demonstration.

Certainly Mayor Samuel was aware of the fact—all other Philadelphians were—that the Philadelphia Transportation Co. operations director ordered power shut off on one line before workers had actually quit there. Here the company actually aided the strike instigators, forcing a lock-out.

The tie-up was then 100 per cent. And the Mayor issued no proclamation. He declared no emergency. He used none of his executive or police powers to halt the outlaw movement.

His first action was to issue a call to persons with cars to "share the ride." That was all. Then, finally, under tremendous public pressure, he made some weak radio appeals to return to work. But neither he nor Malone, who directs the Police Department, went to the barns to appeal for order.

8-13-44

I saw Director Malone at the Luzerne Barns at 5 a. m., Friday. Many operators were there in uniform ready to answer General Hayes first call to return to work. Right under the nose of Malone and police under him strike instigators roamed at will on company property terrorizing the men to defy the Army and stay out. Not a car moved. Malone didn't even ask the workers to return. He made no move to oust the agitators from the barn. His only remark was one to reporters, telling them what they already knew, that no cars were moving.

SEES HIGHER-UPS

It is not only my belief but that of reporters who covered the strike here with me that a thorough investigation will show that persons high up in the directorate of the Transportation Co. and other pillars of Philadelphia politics and society are directly responsible for the shameful uprising.

Dr. A. A. Mitten, labor relations executive of the company, admitted he knew of the coming strike on Monday. He took no steps against it. He issued no public appeals. The strike didn't even bother him. No emergency meeting of the board of directors was called until the Army took over.

8-13-44

But during legitimate strikes of the past, when streetcarmen were fighting for living wages, armed thugs hired by the company and police were on the job to smash the workers' movement. But this was no ordinary strike, it was a reactionary movement of racial intolerance, opposed to the war effort and organized unionism. It was to the company's liking.

And it is important, when examining the background of the strike, not to forget the fact that Mayor Samuel is an ex-officio member of the board of the PTC and three city councilmen represent the city on the board.

Why did the Mayor and the councilmen fail to represent the city in this case? That is the question all democratic Philadelphia is asking.

8-13-44

The Worker—New York, N.Y.

"WHITE SUPREMACY" strike leaders in Philadelphia transit tie up are shown above as they were placed under government arrest. Left to right are strike provocateurs Frank Carney, Frank Thompson and James McMenamin. A grand jury is now probing the background of the incident which badly crippled war production in one of the nation's biggest production centers.

Roaming Strikers Threaten Workers With Violence In Philadelphia Motor Tieup

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

8-5-44

PHILADELPHIA—(SNS)—Roaming bands of strikers threatened violence Friday to workers attempting to restore service on Philadelphia's government—seized transportation lines and—at the Army's request—policemen were assigned to ride all trolleys, busses, subway trains and "el" trains to protect operators.

Maj. General Philip Hayes of the 3rd Service Command, who took control of the system Thursday night on Pres. Roosevelt's orders, said persons with apparent enem ysympathies were attempting to prevent resumption of service.

Leaders of the striking transport workers voted late Friday to continue the four-day old work stoppage.

Friday afternoon after the Army's 5 a. m. (EWT) back-to-work deadline—only 14 trains were in continuous operation on the Market Street "el" and eight in the Board Street subway tube compared with a rush hour total for both lines of 77. No busses moved in this busy wartime city of 2,000,000 and only the trolleys of one route operated.

The stoppage, which began Tuesday morning in protest against upgrading Negro transit employes, had stranded hundreds of thousands, curtailed vital war production and given rise to race violence.

Even as the Army took over, new clashes between whites and Negroes—with one shooting—were reported.

8-5-44

"MEASURED IN BLOOD"

"Delay in restoring full operation is measured in the blood of American soldiers overseas," Hayes said. "Those who obstruct our operation have that blood on their hands."

He promised full legal penalties for any who interfere with service and said "it is obvious that the overwhelming majority

After seven trains had pulled out of the Sixty-ninth Street elevated terminal, a band of strikers appeared on the platform and attempted to dissuade other cews from making their runs. Only one crew walked out again.

8-5-44

"What can you expect of these old guys?" a striker shouted.

35j-1944

Who Provokes Strikes?

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

THE sudden spurt of strikes in recent weeks, most of them in vital war production areas, points to an alarming threat. 8-14-44

In the case of Philadelphia's race strike provocation was obvious even to the myopic observer. But provocation holds equally true in such cases as the midwest truck tieup which was due to flat refusal of the operators to comply with a War Labor Board order, or at Wright Aeronautical where the company exploited cutbacks to fire and then rehire workers at lower pay.

Who desires stoppages of production today?

Defeatists and disruptors of the war effort. Employers with whom a desire to weaken or discredit a union stands above everything. Native fascists who seize every opportunity to foster division along racial and religious lines. The atmosphere created by Hoover-Republicans and anti-Roosevelt Democrats against the Commander-in-Chief is encouraging the exploitation of strikes for political purposes.

The provocations are hatched or encouraged in the camps of these forces to the extent that backwardness among workers is not overcome, as in the case of Philadelphia, and to the extent that grievances are allowed to fester. But this happens to the extent that grivances are allowed to fester. And our War Labor Board, by its slowness, senseless rigdness and straightline thinking, is giving them all the ammunition they want. We need hardly say much on the head-in-the-sand policy on the Little Steel formula. So is the absence of a reconversion policy, and some assurance on the future, cause for much of the atmosphere in which Lewisites, Trotzkyites and Klanlike racists thrive. 8-14-44

Those strikes are a serious threat to the current decisive military operations, they cloud labor's entire fine war record and they threaten seriously to undermine the good will labor must have among the people as a whole in its fight to ward off a Hooverite postwar.

Labor leaders who shrug their shoulders and say they cannot control their men are not living up to their responsibility. The real labor leader knows how to win his members for the right path. This must be the measure of leadership today because the enemies of labor are mustering every scheme they know of to provoke strikes.

TWU Appeals to Phila. Transit Workers to Return, Charges Plot

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y. 8-2-44

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 1.—Philadelphia transportation lines were completely shut down today when former company union leaders provoked a stoppage of 8,600 workers over the hiring of eight Negroes as trolley operators.

The Transport Workers Union which defeated the company union in an election last February, led the fight to get the men and women back to work. Vice-president James Fitzsimons wired Attorney General Biddle asking an immediate investigation. He charged that sinister forces were trying to incite race riots to disrupt war production.

CIO leaders were on the air throughout the day, cooperating with government and army officials in urging the workers return. Meetings at which TWU officials spoke with army officers were held in depots and barns throughout the city. Broad Street was jammed with autos and war plants requisitioned trucks to get workers home. There is no Jimcrow on this emergency transportation. Negro and white workers are standing and riding side by side. 8-2-44

Douglas MacMahon, international secretary treasurer, and other union leaders, urging a return to work in the interest of the war effort charged:

The people behind this stoppage are the discredited officials of the Amalgamated Association AFL, the repudiated leaders of the old company union and brotherhood of railway trainmen local officials.

Leaders of these groups in flying auto squads Tuesday morning went from barn to barn and coerced and threatened the workers and succeeded in keeping them from operating the cars. 8-2-44

The company made no effort to get the cars running. This afternoon they ordered service stopped on the elevated and subway lines, which had been operating, with limited service.

Dr. A. Mitten, industrial relations chairman of the PTC asked the War Manpower Commission today for permission to rescind new WMC hiring rules, doing away with discrimination.

It was this new anti-discrimination hiring order which the company union conspirators used to tie up the lines. The WMC refused to change its official position against discrimination. As rumors spread that the company was prepared to post notices, cancelling the new hiring regulation, a delegation of civic and union leaders protested to Dr. Mitten that changing the hiring regulations would precipitate a dangerous situation in the city.

The company union conspiracy seemed well-organized, it followed by one day the training of the first eight Negroes to be upgraded to operating positions.

FBI Reported 'After Big Fish' In Phila. Strike

World Telegram—N.Y., N.Y. 8-8-44

Grand Jury Prepares To Call 35 Witnesses; Negroes Not Working

New York, N.Y.

By the Associated Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 8.—Philadelphia looked to FBI agents and a federal grand jury today for possible sensational disclosures in the six-day transit strike that developed without apparent organized leadership, inspiring a union's charges of "company collusion" and "sinister enemy activity."

"We are going after the big fish," a federal spokesman said as the FBI massed data and the grand jury prepared to convene tomorrow to hear at least 35 persons, including strikers, Philadelphia Transportation Co. officials, officers of the CIO Transport Workers Union and government war agencies. 8-8-44

Sinister Game, Says Union.

"The workers were . . . pushed out on a checker board, as pawns, in a sinister game," said the CIO Transport Workers Union.

By the Associated Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 8.—Frank L. McNamee, regional director of the War Manpower Commission, said today loss of 4,000,000 man-hours in defense plants during the city's six-day transit strike cost the nation's war production program the equivalent of 267 Flying Fortresses or five destroyers.

The strike, a protest against the upgrading of eight Negroes to drivers' jobs, under a Fair Employment Practices Committee directive, began early last Tuesday morning, without warning, and was crushed completely early yesterday, after the army seized the lines.

A federal spokesman said the special investigating jury would summon Frank L. McNamee, Regional Director of the War Manpower Commission, and Mr. McNamee said a PTC official had proposed that the employment directive be vacated as "the price of ending the tie-up." 8-8-44

The Transport Workers Union said last week its own investigation indicated enemy activity. Later it charged company collusion. The company did not comment.

Negroes Sent Back Home.

Five of the eight Negroes who were scheduled to begin training as operators when the work stoppage began last Tuesday reported to PTC instruction depots yesterday, but were told to go home and call back today.

When they called today, they were told not to report this morning but to call again tomorrow. Later this morning they went to the Fair Employment Practices Committee office to report on the situation to G. James Fleming, regional director.

"All the indications are that the government is going to take up the training again promptly, especially since the city is 27,000 workers short for all kinds of work," Mr. Fleming said.

Limited Travel Again on Move In Philadelphia

Constitution Atlanta, Ga. 8-3-44

By The Associated Press.

The Philadelphia Transportation Company began operation of a curtailed service last night on its subway elevated lines with trains operated by volunteer crews. Police guards were placed at stations.

Frank L. McNamee, regional director of the War Manpower Commission, said he was told by Douglas McMahon, international secretary-treasurer of the Transport Workers Union (CIO) that the operating crews had volunteered to return at a shop stewards' meeting yesterday afternoon.

The first trains left terminals of both the Market Street-Frankford subway-elevated and the Broad Street subway lines without passengers about 7 p. m. They were to pick up passengers on their return trips. Other trains that followed were to pick up passengers both ways.

It was the first break in a complete tie-up of trolley, bus and subway-elevated service that had held since noon Tuesday.

The stoppage was referred to President Roosevelt by the War Labor Board yesterday following a renewal of racial outbreaks in which both whites and negroes suffered beatings.

Besides the 6,000 trolley, bus, subway and elevated train drivers idle in Philadelphia, more than 24,500 other workers were involved in labor disputes throughout the nation. 8-3-44

The Philadelphia controversy, in which both whites and Negroes were attacked, followed a fair employment practices committee order for hiring of Negro motormen and drivers.

As thousands of war workers were left without means of transportation to their jobs, gangs of armed Negroes roamed the streets in a Negro residential-business section, smashing windows, looting stores and beating white passersby.

Several instances of attacks on Negroes also were reported. In one, a civilian Negro driver for the U. S. signal corps was dragged from his truck and beaten by three white youths.

In Washington, the White House announced that War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes had sent a dispute at the Spicer Manufacturing Co. to the President. The WLB communication on the Philadelphia dispute. 8-3-44

Industrial Detroit saw two strikes affecting 7,000 employees at the General Motors Co. plants ended, one continuing, and to halt a strike of 7,000 employees at the Stinson Division of the General Motors Co. had been dismissed. At the present management was "sabotaging" war production, but the dated Vultee Aircraft Co. plant, charging a group of Montgomery Ward & Co. clerks who voted to return to work after pleas by union officials at Sunday inventory. Still closed was the General Steel Castings Co. plant in Granite City, sed for refusing a mass meeting. 8-3-44 where 1,500 workers are involving Industrial Detroit saw two strikes affecting 7,000 employees at the Kelsey-Hayes Wheel Co., 4,000 employees in five plants of the Chevrolet gear and axle division, one continuing, and to halt a strike of 7,000 employees at the Stinson Division of the General Motors Co. had been dismissed. At the present management was "sabotaging" war production, but the United Automobile Workers dismissed the two settled disputes. 8-3-44 Bishop, a union to help with a Sunday inventory. Still closed was the General Steel Castings Co. plant in Granite City, regional director, as administrator. Also ended was a three-day strike involving an effort Pottstown, Pa., where

4,300 workers ended Tuesday, but was resumed almost immediately when 300 Negro chippers walked out for the second time, forcing idleness on the other 4,000.

The WLB issued a directive ordering 4,700 employes at the Trenton and Roebling, N. J., plants of John A. Roebling's Sons & Co., idle since last Friday, to return to work at once.

Nine other unadjusted labor problems resulted in the absence of approximately 4,500 workers from their jobs.

Strikes In Montreal, Philadelphia Tie Up Street Transportation

By The Associated Press

Transportation tieups plagued two major cities Thursday amid continental labor disputes in which the number of idle workers exceeded 36,000.

Philadelphia entered its third day of complete public transportation paralysis, looking to President Roosevelt for action to end the stoppage, and in Montreal, Quebec, most of the trams disappeared from the streets.

A population total of more than 3,000,000 was affected in the two cities. Six thousand trolley, bus and subway workers were out in Philadelphia and 4,000 tramway workers were affected in Montreal.

* * *

THE MONTREAL WALKOUT, third within 18 months, developed after a dispute over whether a union shop provision applying to new employes should be put in a contract between the tramway company and the Canadian Brotherhood of Railway Employes.

Upgrading of eight Negro employes to become operators was the spark which ignited not only the stoppage but racial disorder in Philadelphia beginning Tuesday. Window smashings and conflicts between whites and Negroes were subdued somewhat Wednesday night by a pouring rain, but 10,000 regular and auxiliary policemen were on duty, equipped with steel helmets and night sticks.

Small numbers of Philadelphia Transportation Company employes voluntarily returned to work Wednesday night, but only for about two hours. Officials of the CIO Transport Workers Union joined Mayor Bernard Samuel in pleading with employes to return to work. The mayor called the stoppage "sabotage of our country's war effort."

Army Withdraws Guards From

Philly Carriers

4 More Strikers Who Failed To Obey Order Fired

PHILADELPHIA — The first Negro operator of a Philadelphia trolley began regular passenger runs Monday as the Army withdrew all guards from trolleys, buses and subway and elevated trains. Two other operators were scheduled to start regular runs during the day.

The three were among eight Negro trainees whose upgrading to operating jobs caused a walk out August 1, tying up Philadelphia mass transportation for five days and resulting in Army seizure of the system.

Four additional white employes who failed to obey the Army's ultimatum to return to work or be fired were discharged Monday, and their names referred to Selective Service. One of the four, an operator, also was referred to the War Manpower Commission, indicating that he would be denied certificates of availability for employment for the duration of the war.

Four strike leaders, discharged last week and charged with violation of the Smith-Connally Act, were scheduled for hearings before United Commissioner Norman J. Griffin Monday. All pleaded innocent upon arrangement.

POLL REVEALS OPINION STRIKERS NOT JUSTIFIED

The Evening Bulletin public opinion poll reported Monday that 63.5 per cent of Philadelphians questioned held that transportation strikers were not justified and 25.5 per cent expressed the opinion that the work stoppage was justified.

Asked whether competent Negroes should be hired for such jobs, 52.3 per cent said yes; 37.4 per cent said no, and 10.5 said they had no opinion.

The Bulletin reported that Negroes answered 92.5 per cent in favor of employment of Negroes 7.05 per cent expressing no opinion; 90 per cent held the stoppage not justified, while 5 per cent answered that it was justified and 5 per cent gave no opinion.

Negro Hoodlums Beat War Workers

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 15—(AP)—Fresh violence preceded renewed probing today into the causes and aftermath of Philadelphia's "war production-crippling" transit strike.

Two outbreaks of hoodlumism—the first since 14 persons were injured during the six-day strike—occurred last night. A gang of negro boys, ejected from a bus in an argument over payment of fares, attacked a war plant worker. Cruising police chased them away and arrested one of the alleged assailants. Bricks hurled through a trolley's windows injured a negro woman passenger.

The army itself began an investigation of the story of Mrs. Dorothy Hibbs, 21, that she was given no work after running a trolley the first two days after the strike ended. She said returned striker's subjected her to jeers while she waited in the carbarn for work orders that did not come. She blamed organized pressure against those who were prompt to obey the army's work-or-be-fired ultimatum on penalty of being denied WMC job referrals for the duration of the war.

Thomas A. Quigley 30-year-old motorman, who ignored the ultimatum, was confronted with the prospect of induction into the army Thursday if physically acceptable, or of earning a living for his wife and two children in farm, domestic, state or Federal government work—the only fields not covered by the wage stabilization program.

Link Peace Now To Phila. Strike

Special to the Daily Worker

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 14.—Peace Now leaders were in contact with "white supremacy" strike leaders the first days of Philadelphia's week long transit tieup.

This was admitted to the Daily Worker today by Mildred Scott Olmstead, member of the Peace Now strategy board and a "negotiated peace" ringleader.

Mrs. Olmstead was reached at the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom, of which she is one of the leaders. She was asked to comment on statements made to a strike committee meeting by strike leader Thomas Hutchinson, that she had offered money to the strikers.

While denying that any offer of financial support had been made by her, Mrs. Olmstead admitted talking with strike ringleaders on Wednesday, the second day of the strike.

"I called Mr. McMenamin to get the strikers' viewpoint. The man with whom I spoke did not give me his name—he said the strike leaders were using only McMenamin's name. I asked him if it were really a racial issue. 'Not at all,' he said. 'We have made a statement but no paper would print it. Maybe you are the group that could break it into the press?'

"We are not in favor of racial discrimination," Mrs. Olmstead said she reminded him. Mrs. Olmstead maintained her only interest was to get the strikers' own side, because she knew how the papers often misquoted things.

Mrs. Olmstead further said that the strike leader with whom she spoke claimed, "I am a great personal friend of Mrs. Gustav Ketterer."

Mrs. Ketterer is a Republican clubwoman, according to Hugh Scott, GOP Congressman from her Germantown "silk stocking" district. We asked Mr. Scott how to describe her, and he said, "a Republican clubwoman was accurate."

During the strike, the "White supremacy" leaders claimed strong support. It is expected that the Attorney General's office will ask Mrs. Olmstead and Mrs. Ketterer to testify before the Grand Jury as to their alleged and admitted relations with strike leaders, now disclosed for the first time.

Grand Jury Told To Seek Motive in Philadelphia Strike

100 Witnesses Called In Stern Probe of Transit Stoppage

By the Associated Press.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 10.—A federal grand jury buckled down today to uncovering the motivating factor in the city's recent six-day strike after U. S. District Judge George A. Welsh admonished the nine women and 11 men that he did not believe the upgrading of eight Negroes to operators' jobs was the real cause and spoke of a "secret motive."

The first of more than 100 witnesses, including Mayor Bernard Samuel, Frank L. McNamee, regional WMC director; company and union officials and strikers, were scheduled to be called today.

In his charge Judge Welsh instructed the jury yesterday to determine whether persons who called the city's transit strike did so with the aim of wielding "some effect" on the fall elections.

"I don't want to bring politics into this investigation," the Republican jurist said, "but you may find what was in the hearts and the minds of these men who called this strike was intended to have some effect on the impending election."

In Washington, Senator Russell (D., Ga.) accused government leaders of trying "to intimidate workers throughout the nation" by using "unusually drastic means" to halt the Philadelphia strike.

Negro Leaders Prevented Transit Strike Chaos

By FRED W. PERKINS,
Scripps-Howard Staff Writer.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 9. — If any good can come out of the Philadelphia transportation strike and the race disturbances that appeared in its early stages, it is that the dangerous situation served as a laboratory which seems to show how it is possible to prevent similar trouble between whites and Negroes.

Fred W. Perkins.

Here in Philadelphia a major share of the credit for prevention of serious disorders was given by city officials and the newspapers to sane and effective leadership in Negro circles.

Negro Leaders Praised.

"During the week of tension," said Mayor Samuel, "splendid work was done by Negro leaders in discouraging and suppressing possible trouble. This is the type of work that gains the respect of all good citizens."

As an example of how other Northern cities may learn from the City of Brotherly Love, Detroit sent some of its Negro detectives here as observers. They have gone home with a message that intelligent leadership among the Negroes themselves was a great factor in putting an early end to the hoodlumism at the beginning of the strike.

Another good factor, according to Roy Garvin of Washington, manager of the Negro newspaper Afro-American, was "sane coverage of the situation" by the Philadelphia newspapers.

Leaders in Philadelphia's colored community were ready with plans to combat the disorders when they broke out a week ago last night. Officials of Negro organizations had been meeting for a week on the possibility that trouble might come with the beginning of training for upgraded Negro employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Co.

'Sit Tight, Keep Cool.'

Tuesday, first day of the strike, these groups caused distribution of 100,000 handbills advising all citizens to "sit tight—keep your heads and your tempers. Treat other people as you would be treated. Share your car. . . . The same messages appeared on 500 placards in areas of large Negro population and Negro committee workers were instructed to help police the district, and posters

"Negroes, think before you act! Your neighbors are not your enemies. Let's all co-operate for mutual helpfulness."

The day after the hoodlum outbreaks, Dr. John K. Rice, president of the North Philadelphia Civic League, a Negro organization of 500 members, called a meeting of area Negro leaders and many white storekeepers who had been victimized by the mob. Many

35j-1944

Riots Spread When 4,500 Strike Against Hiring 8 Car Men

Washington Tribune Washington, D.C.
8-5-44

All bus, trolley, and subway service in the war center of Philadelphia was completely paralyzed this week by the unauthorized strike of more than 4,500 workers protesting because eight Negro workers were to begin training on Tuesday as operators under a Fair Employment Practice Committee order.

Racial disorder spread throughout the city which is considered the second war production center of the nation.

All Philadelphia bus and trolley systems, with exception of trolleys on four minor lines in Delaware.. County,.. outside.. the city, were affected when the men began turning in their cars and buses at 4 a.m., on the excuse they were ill. Philadelphia's public transportation system normally carries 1,500,000 riders daily.

8-5-44

The stoppage left hundreds of thousands stranded on street corners and interfered with production in thousands of war plants.

Appeals Booed Down

Officials of the Philadelphia Transportation Company announced its willingness to bar Negroes from jobs as operators to settle the strike, but officials of the War Manpower Commission and the Fair Employment Practice Committee declared they would not agree to surrender the authority of the Federal Government to set rules governing the use of the nation's manpower.

Union officials, Army and Navy officers and company men went to the various barns and garages appealed to the men to go back of the transportation system and to work. But the pleas to end the sudden, work stoppage were heard in silence and booed down.

Enemy Agents Blamed

The Transport Workers Union, CIO, contended that the tie-up was instigated by enemy agents with the aim of inciting race riots and stalling war production, while the company claimed the men were protesting the hiring of Negro operators.

The union, through James J. Fitzsimon, international vice-president, wired U. S. Attorney General Biddle that it believed enemy agents fostered the strike and said immediate action would ferret out enemy activities.

In Washington, the War Labor Board instructed its Philadelphia officers to take jurisdiction in an effort to settle the stoppage.

Disorder between Negroes and white auto and truck drivers is said to have flared up on Tuesday night. After reports of racial disorder spread and a minor skirmish developed between Negroes and whites, Mayor Bernard Samuel ordered all establishments selling beer, wines, and liquor to stop sales immediatelu. Similar orders went out from the State Liquor Control Commission to all State-operated retail liquor stores in Philadelphia County.

Negroes were upgraded to platform (operative) jobs several weeks ago in accordance with the WMC's stabilization plan, and the first group of eight was to have begun work on Tuesday for the first time. 8-5-44

Five of the eight Negroes in training with the company for jobs as street car operators were old employees being upgraded; three were newly hired men. They would have undergone training on "training tracks."

The upgrading, brought about by the Fair Employment Practice Committee, was protested by both the company and the old discredited company union.

The union issued a statement saying the people behind this stoppage are the discredited officials of the Amalgamated Association of Streetcar, Electric Railway, and Motor Coach Employees, the denudiated leaders of the old company union, and the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen. It urged the workers to return to their jobs.

The union replaced an independent union as the workers' bargaining agent after an NLRB election on March 14. The A.F. of L. union also participated in the balloting.

F.D.R. Urged to Stand Pat

Urgent wires were sent simultaneously, Tuesday, by Walter White, NAACP secretary, to President Roosevelt and Paul V. McNutt, WMC director, calling on them to stand firm against strikers protesting the training of Negro Americans for transportation jobs in Philadelphia.

The President was asked to intercede in giving unqualified support to the request made to Mr. McNutt, reading: 8-5-44

"May we urge that the War Manpower Commission stand absolutely firm and refuse to yield to strikers who have tied up transportation system in Philadelphia in protest against training of fellow Americans?

"If this strike in the so-called City of Brotherly Love were won, it would invite further trouble in other cities. Only a few weeks ago I talked with a group of Philadelphia Negroes under terrific fire at the battle of Cassino, some of whom were killed by enemy shell fire a few hours later as they sought to preserve liberty for white fellow Philadelphians who today have tied up that city's transportation system to keep other Negroes from earning a decent living.

"The American Government cannot afford to yield to mob action of this character to negate democracy of this character.

Sudden Transit Strike Paralyzes Philadelphia

Courier-Journal-Louisville, Ky.
8-2-44

From Wire Dispatches.

A surprise work stoppage paralyzed Philadelphia's entire public transportation system yesterday and the Transport Workers Union (C.I.O.) said it was instigated by enemy agents to incite race riots and stall war production.

The unauthorized walkout, stopping buses, trolleys and subway and subway-elevated trains, left hundreds of thousands of work-bound residents stranded and slowed production in war plants thdoughout the city.

James J. Fitzsimon, T.W.U. international vice president, asked Attorney General Biddle to investigate, saying the union's own investigation indicated enemy activity.

Racial Trouble Reported.

The Philadelphia Transportation Company, operator of the lines, said it believed the 6,000 bus,trolley and subway drivers and maintenance men quit because Negro operators had been hired.

Reports of race trouble spread through the city and after one minor skirmish developed between whites and Negroes Mayor Bernard Samuel ordered all establishments to quit selling beer, wines and liquor immediately. Similar orders went from the State Liquor Control Commission to all state-operated retail liquor stores in Philadelphia County.

The drivers themselves ascribed their layoffs to "illness." "There's no trouble," one said. "There just seems to be an epidemic of sickness. I'm too sick to take a car out." 8-2-44

The stoppage came on the first day of the Philadelphia-Camden, N. J., area's classification as a Group 1 "dangerous" labor shortage area.

Absenteeism Rusn High.

Thousands hitch-hiked to their jobs, most arriving late. Others stayed home. Abnormal absenteeism was reported. The O.P.A. ordered emergency gasoline rations for all motorists applying.

The transit company upgraded Negroes to operative jobs several weeks ago in accordance with the W.M.C.'s employment stabilization plan. The first group was to have made practice runs today for the first time.

Both the company and the union protested the upgrading, which was brought about by the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee.

The stoppage began at 4 a.m.

The union blamed "disgruntled leaders" of the Amalgamated Association of Street Car, Electric Railway and Motor Coach Employes (A.F.L.), the Brotherhood of Railway Trainmen and an independent union which formerly represented the workers, but said "there is something more in back of it. 8-2-44

Ward Strike Is Settled.

In Detroit, Edward W. Miller, commissioner of conciliation for the Department of Labor, announced the dispute involving 2,300 Montgomery, Ward & Co. employes that closed three stores had been settled and 250 discharged workers reinstated.

The settlement was reached during a conference with representatives of the company and the United Retail, Wholesale and Department Store Employes (C.I.O.).

The union charged the 250 employes were fired because they refused to work overtime without pay.

6,370 Idle In New Jersey.

The total number of workers affected in three New Jersey walkouts reached 6,370 as two new strikes broke out, one of them in a plant producing containers for the distribution of blood plasma. 8-2-44

With production of the plasma containers halted in Jersey City, more than 700 gas division employes of the Public Service Corporation walked out, affecting plants in Camden, Burlingtown, Trenton, Perth Amboy, Somerville and other industrial centers.

Negro Carman Makes Run In Philadelphia

Courier-Journal-Louisville, Ky.
8-16-44

Philadelphia, Aug. 14 (U.P.)—The first of eight Negro operational trainees, whose upgrading by the Philadelphia Transportation Company initiated the recent six-day transit strike, began regular passenger runs on a trolley line today. Two more Negro operators were scheduled to begin regular runs later in the day.

"This has been the dullest week
ed up to the cor-
eyd come aboard
, 'Good morning, in my life," a middle aged operator
ou back.'" said as he reported to work at the
"very meek and Luzerne Barn, headquarters of the
en they saw the white supremacy' strike committee.
hos said, but they "I feel like a real American to be
I'm glad to see you back with gifts. They coming back to work. Just a few
Some became "very quiet at first when cars with piles of leaders organized this strike, with
hands when I pulled up to the corner," she said. "They'd smiles and say, 'Good a" intimidation and everything else."
8-8-44

Applause greeted the first street

'I Feel Like A Real American Again,' Says Trolley Operator

Special to the Daily Worker

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7.—The 53 streamliner accompanied by first street car to roll here after three battle-dressed doughboys came aboard the cars with Major Gen. Philip Hayes issued the armed with carbines. sandwiches and smokes and work or be fired ultimatum was "Passengers practically jumped army men. aken out of the barn by Mrs. up and down and clapped their
8-8-44

Dorothy Hibbs. She piloted a

cars to run through the heavily populated Negro section of North Philadelphia.

"I'm clapping for the Army takin; things over," shouted an elderly Negro man to a woman across the street as the first car rolled by on North 19th Street.

"I'm laughing because that trolley company can't run through here with soldiers," she shouted in reply.

Further down the street where Negro and white residents live side by side, the clatter of the first trolley brought people running to their doors and windows.

A placard advertising a local radio station program with the words "Know what's happeened this week in Philadelphia" was on the back of the car.

"Know what's happened in Philadelphia this week," shouted a middle-aged white woman at the motorman, "and it's a shame on our city." Her Negro neighbor on the next door porch reached over and shook her hand vigorously.

8-8-44

Said George Smith, Negro captain of auxiliary police in the 23rd District: "The Negroes in this section are satisfied now that Uncle Sam has taken over. They're not going to resort to violence and they have confidence that things will work out without them getting shoved around, now that Washington has let it be known they don't intend taking anything from a few hundred bigots."

* * * *

James H. McMenamin, leader of the clique that instigated the anti-Negro strike, says he has "no regrets" for his actions, but he is trying to crawl out from under responsibility of the disorder which drastically cut war production in this area. This loud-mouthed agitator who denounced the idea of Negroes working on the lines and headed a so-called strike committee, now claims he was no leader, but merely a "spokesman for the strikers."

STRIKE HEADS LOSE PHILADELPHIA JOBS

New York Times, 8-8-44

Discharged by Army Order, Two Face Duration Work Ban and Two Face Draft

NEGROES ARE SENT HOME

Only Two of Eight Show Up and Are Told to Return Later—Transit Normal

By WALTER W. RUCH

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 7—Complete public transportation service was restored to Philadelphia today when all except thirteen of the 6,000 transit strikers returned to their jobs under Army supervision to end a six-day stoppage which was estimated to have cost more than 4,000,000 man-hours of labor in prime war-production plants.

Four other employes of the Philadelphia Transportation Company were idle, but not of their own choosing. James H. McMenamin, chairman of the strikers' emergency committee, and three other reputed strike leaders who were arrested Saturday were fired summarily "for cause" on orders of Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, War Department representative in emergency charge of the transportation system.

8-8-44

For McMenamin and Frank P. Carney, president of the defunct Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employes Union, the dismissal meant their blacklisting from employment for the duration of the war.

For the younger William C. Dixey, 36, and Frank Thompson, 42, the dismissal opened the way for their immediate induction into the armed forces and tonight the Selective Service machinery was in motion toward that end. Both would be called for their physical examination at the induction center this week, it was indicated.

There was hardly a mention during the day of the eight Negroes the training of whom to become motormen on the otherwise "all-white" system provoked the walkout.

The Army, while protecting fully the training status of the eight men, took the attitude that "first things come first" and the first thing today, in the Army view, was to restore full operation.

Two of the Negroes showed up to resume their training this morning. One was told to call back tomorrow and the other wase directed to take it easy for a few days. Other than that, the activity of the eight today remained a mystery.

8-8-44

The turnout of employes today was so great as to prompt the Army to announce that it was one of the best operating days in the history of the system. Normally 300 to 600 employes are idle for one reason or another.

Supply of Guards Runs Short

Opeartors were at normal virtually from the moment of the 12:01 A. M. deadline set by the Army. There were delays in service but these were not for lack of service personnel but from temporary shortages of soldiers to post in subway and elevated trains, buses and street cars.

The four accused strike leaders, who are out on bail of $2,500 each on charges of violating the Smith-Connally anti-strike law, were discharged when they appeared for duty as varying hours today.

The first to "get the axe" was McMenamin, a subway train operator. When he showed up at the Frankford car barn he was discharged by William Hunter, depot superintendent.

The 43-year-old McMenamin, stripped of a job he had held for nineteen years, expressed the opinion later that most PTC men felt "very sour" because they believed "they haven't gotten justice."

"The men felt it was a protest, not a strike," he said. They hoped some agency would give them a fair and just hearing, but none was offered. There was no cooperation.

"I feel personally there is no guilt involved. I was no more a leader than any of the 6,000 employes. I only acted as spokesman because they asked me to. This affair had no leadership and no officers."

He protested that he could not see why "they should have arrested us four men," adding that, as he felt at the moment, he did not expect to retain counsel to defend himself.

8-8-44

Would Depend on Court

"I think I will let the Federal court handle this," he declared.

Carney also received his discharge notice from Mr. Hunter. Thompson was next. Dixey, on hearing of the dismissal of his three co-defendants, appeared at the depot ahead of time.

"I got the gate," he told other workers a few minutes later.

Henry A. Schweinhaut, special assistant to the Attorney General, began assembling the evidence to be presented starting Wednesday to a Federal grand jury that will be instructed to delve completely into the background and operation of the strike.

"We plan to call anyone having a knowledge of the facts," Mr. Schweinhaut said. "Many agents working for the Government have been in action from two to three days and they have given us certain information on which we will proceed. We will make an inquiry into the entire situation.

NEGROES ABSENT AS PHILADELPHIA CARS RUN AGAIN

Daily Tribune, Chicago, Ill. 8-8-44

Transit Lines Guarded by U. S. Troops.

Philadelphia, Pa., Aug. 7 [Special].—With the restoration to normal early today of Philadelphia's public transportation service after a six day strike, only one of eight Negroes whose upgrading to trolley motormen led to the walkout appeared at a car barn to resume instruction as a car operator and he was sent home to await a call.

The army, which took over operation of the system Thursday on orders of President Roosevelt, declined to say why the other seven Negro student operators failed to report, or why the one Negro did not remain on the job.

Operation Is First Concern.

Questioned about the Negro trainees' status, an army spokesman said: "Our first duty is to get these roads back into normal operation and make sure that operation stays normal. Everything else will be taken up in order."

Troops guarded every vehicle against violence as all but 13 of the 6,000 operating employes returned to work on schedule to meet the army's "work or be fired" ultimatum. The average absenteeism for the last three months was 9.5 per cent.

Maj. Gen. Philip Hayes, touring the car barns, told the returning workers: 8-8-44

"You're all soldiers even tho you're not in uniform. Any man who isn't back on his job at the scheduled time—zip! He will get no job any where for the duration—and the duration may be a long time."

Grand Jury to Act.

With resumption of transportation bringing Philadelphia's vital war production up to schedule, the government began action to investigate the costly strike and to punish perpetrators of Philadelphia's "nightmare week."

"We're going after the big fish," said a federal investigator, preparing material for presentation to a grand jury convening Wednesday. Federal bureau of investigation agents were probing deeply into underlying causes of the strike, which caused many racial clashes.

Two score or more witnesses were scheduled to appear before the grand jury, including strikers, Philadelphia Transportation company officials, and members of the Transport Workers' union [CIO], who denounced the stoppage and accused company officials of "collusion." 8-8-44

Four strike leaders, who are free on $2,500 bonds on charges of violating the Smith-Connally law, were dismissed from their jobs as they appeared for work.

They are: James H. McMenamin, chairman of the strike committee who told workers "you are going back to work at the point of a bayonet"; Frank P. Carney, four times president of the company union displaced as bargaining agency by the TWU; William C. Dixey, vice chairman of the strike committee, and Frank Thompson, frequent spokesman for McMenamin.

The four pleaded not guilty when arraigned in federal court yesterday and posted bond. United States Commissioner Norman J. Griffin set hearings for Aug. 14.

Two Hitler Victories In Philadelphia

8-8-44

Every wartime strike is disheartening, but none could be more so than one like that of Philadelphia's bus and street car operators. They failed to show up for the morning's run yesterday, apparently because their employer, the Philadelphia Transportation Company, had decided to try out some Negroes as operators. This decision was obviously not a magnanimous gesture by the company to Negroes or an effort deliberately to flout the prejudices of its white employes. Acute manpower shortage prevails in the Philadelphia area, the War Manpower equality," as it is called. All that it implies or asserts is his economic equality, his right to earn his living according to his ability, in free competition and with disadvantage on his side to start with, since his white competitors generally have had superior opportunities, educational and otherwise. 8-2-44

This minimum right he should have, war or no war. But the question was not put that way in Philadelphia. It was put as a matter of maintaining in operation at capacity the transportation system that is essential to a war production center. Thus HITLER won a double victory at Philadelphia yesterday morning—an ideological victory for his extreme racism and a material victory. The Commission, on that account, having just placed it in the group of production centers which will be denied new war contracts. The company's attempt to promote the Negroes to operating jobs is plainly only and strictly an attempt to keep needed street cars and busses running.

But the white workers, dispatches indicate, were unwilling to accept this even as a wartime necessity—even when the Negroes were plainly not taking the jobs of white men but, instead, jobs that white men had left. In no circumstances is the color of a man's skin an index of his ability to be a bus driver or a street car motorman. In no circumstances does a Negro's holding such a job imply or assert his "social tory to the extent that war work has been impeded.

35j-1944

New Men Got Best Jobs, Union Official Charges

Courier-Journal — Louisville, Ky.
6-24-44

Pikeville, Ky., June 23 (AP)—Officers of the Van Lear Local of the United Mine Workers Union issued a statement today to clarify what they said was a misunderstanding over the reason for a walkout at the Consolidation Coal Company this week. One union officer had been quoted as saying that some 300 employes quit work last Monday as a result of favoritism shown to Negro workers.

The statement issued today, signed by President Norman Fraley of the Local and approved by International U.M.W. Representative Tom Raney, Pikeville, said:

"The Negroes have always been treated fairly in Van Lear. They have belonged to our Local for several years, and they will always be treated equally.

Negroes Not Involved.

"Our protest was based on the fact that the company had recently employed new men and placed them in the best working places.

4-24-44

"If the new employes had been white men . . . we would have taken the same position. . . . The older employes should be given preference in work placements . . ."

The employes voted to return to work at a meeting in Van Lear Tuesday, and normal operations were resumed Wednesday, Superintendent M. M. McCormick said.

Raney announced that the miners had agreed to negotiate their grievance "in the regular manner."

PEACE MOVE MADE IN BRIDGE STRIKE

Post-Birmingham, Ala.

Labor conciliators scheduled meetings today with members of the United Steel Workers Union (CIO) in an effort to end a work stoppage at the Virginia Bridge Co. that halted production of section bridges for the Army yesterday.

Approximately 500 workers quit, reportedly in protest against the presence of two Negro workers in a rivet line, made up generally of white men.

6-24-44

Another work stoppage at the Wylam coal mine of the Tennessee Coal & Iron Co., appeared to be slowly ending, as 185 men returned to work on the day shift this morning. About 240 were still out.

Negro Laundry Workers Still Out on Strike

Times, St Petersburg, Fla.
July 23, 1944

Approximately 60 negro workers on strike at two local laundries remained away from their jobs yesterday as plant officials reported a critical labor shortage which has developed as a result of the walk-out.

The first strike occurred here July 13 when about 25 negro women left their jobs at the Soft Water laundry, 515 Twenty-second street south. The second walk-out took place one week later when 75 per cent of the workers at Superior laundry, 701 Second avenue south, ceased work in what was described as a "sympathy strike."

Officials of the two companies said yesterday that they had not as yet been approached by the union and did not know their demands.

W. L. Durant, local AFL organizer, has maintained that the strike can be settled "within 15 minutes" if the company officials will give him an audience. Officials, on the other hand, say that they have not been requested to sit in any kind of conference with union leaders.

7-23

Meanwhile, the laundry situation here, already congested, is reaching a crucial stage. Replacement of the striking workers is almost impossible and deliveries of commercial and domestic laundry have been considerably slowed.

S. L. McClintook, plant manager at Superior, said the strike was hampering his output to a great extent and that the company was also handling a laundry contract for the government which may be affected.

The Philadelphia Flare-Up

Daily World — Atlanta, Ga.

The racial flare-up in Philadelphia, precipitated Tuesday over a city-wide strike of nearly 6,000 Transit Company motormen because of their refusal to work with 8 Negroes who were being trained to operate street cars, serves to explain the extent and intensity of race and color prejudice in this land of opportunity.

8-4-44

It has been reported that the walkout has crippled production because tens of thousands of workers could not get to their jobs in Philadelphia's war plants. Philadelphia is considered the nation's second largest war production city. Officials of the Philadelphia Transportation Company are reported to have announced that they were willing to bar Negroes from jobs as operators to settle the strike, but officials of the War Manpower Commission and the Fair Employment Practice Committee declared they would not agree to surrender the authority of the national government to set rules governing the use of the Nation's manpower.

The Philadelphia Transit Company took a similar position on the question of upgrading Negro employes several months ago. Had they shown themselves willing at that time to follow the proposal of the Committee, it is altogether likely that the strike now would not have been possible. Absenteeism is said to have been hiked between 50 and 60 per cent in war plants in the Philadelphia area since Monday. Appeal has been made to the President to settle the strike. In all probability, the President or the Manpower Commission will act. Now is the time for prompt and decisive action. We have little grounds to believe that there is any real material difference between Hitler's racial theories and those expressed in the attitude of the 6,000 white motormen at Philadelphia. That attitude has got the entire world at grips today. It is contrary to our American democracy. And it repudiates the principles of the Atlantic Charter principles, ideals for which hundreds of thousands of our men are giving their lives as the purchase price.

8-4-44

In Philadelphia, like every other American city, Negroes insist that the door of opportunity must be opened to them. There must be no half-way measures about that. Either we must upgrade and promote Negroes on the basis of achievement and ability, or else the problem of race can never be fully and satisfactorily settled. The words of Dr. Alain Locke, we believe, pose the question in its serious form. He asks: "How can we lead in the liquidation of all forms of fascism when we continue to have all forms of political and economic discrimination in our country?" The race question in America is a world problem whch can be cured only by the break-down of prejudice.

Roosevelt Orders Army To Operate Philly Carriers

Daily world — Atlanta, Ga.

PHILADELPHIA — (SNS) — Maj. General Philip Hayes, commanding general of the Third Service Command, came here Thursday as the Army made apparent preparation to take over Philadelphia's paralized transportation system.

Hayes and other Army officers went into conference with officers of the Philadelphia Transportation Company after collapse of a union movement to end a bus, trolley

paired by a sergeant, with an armful of placards, entered the Sixty-ninth Street elevated train terminal and went directly to the terminal office.

The Philadelphia Army public relations section summoned reporters to hear what it said would be an important announcement.

CASE GIVEN PRESIDENT

The developments came after War Mobilization Director James F. Byrnes, referred the stoppage case to President Roosevelt. The War Labor Board had decided it could not restore operations by conducting conferences.

8-4-44

Upgrading of eight Negro employes to operative jobs on the PTC Lines, under a directive of the FEPC, caused the walkout. Clashes between Negroes and whites followed.

While Hayes conferred, other Army officers filled the headquarters of the Third Service Command, Pennsylvania district. Many

8-4-44

lieutenant, accom-

and subway work stoppage that slashed war production, caused race violence and stranded thousands.

An Army

Troops converged on the city of Brotherly Love from three directions at 7:40, so there were then a considerable number of troops already in the town.

The President's Order authorizes the Army to take possession of and operate the city transportation system until it feels it can be safely returned to the Philadelphia Transit Company without further interruption of service or trouble.

Philadelphia is the second most critical war production area in the country, according

Army Takes Over On Order Of FDR

8-4-44

PHILADELPHIA — (NNPA) — The Army moved into Philadelphia Thursday night at 7:40 on order of President Roosevelt following the referral of the Transit employes "dilemma"

tudied maps of the city and left. The Office of Defense Transportation also could operate the nes or the ODT and Army might ointly operate them. the Army nforcing any federal orders.

Police Wednesay night reported new wave of window smashings, which they attributed to Negro ouths, as a two-hour move by a mall group of PTC employes to estore service on Philadelphia's wo subway lines ended in failure. An officials of the Transport Workers' Union (CIO), who declined to be quoted by name, said ick-to-work appeals to the 6,000 c lb metfr SHRDL drtwai nployes had "only a ghost of a ance" to succeed, "barring a big eak in Washington." Government izure, he agreed, would be such break."

8-4-44

Interracial clashes stemming om the work stoppage caused ospitalization of at least 13 perns before Wednesday's steady ln-called "providential" by one lice official—drove wandering nds indoors.

OCER SHOOTS NEGRO

In an area where clashes were merous, five Negroes allegedly acked Morris Miller, 50, in his cery store, and Miller shot and dously wounded one of them. police superintedent stated. ller possibly suffered a skull cture. The man shot was identi- as Erwin Odrick, 21.

But the downpour also contrid to a transport snarl that kept ,000 of the area's 800,000 war kers from jobs, the War Man- er Commission reported, and sed a central city business de- e estimated by a retail trade kesman at $1,000,000 a day.

xtra trains of the Pennsylvania lroad and Reading Company s could carry only a fraction of 1,500,000 persons who daily ride PTC trolleys, busses and sub- trains, while an oil industry kesman said motorists granted a gasoline in the emergency e draining the region's tanks.

ppeals were made to absentee kers to go to their jobs. Negro ers urged their groups to re- n from any violence, and tap ns and liquor stores remained ed by city and state order.

ansit Strike Referred To e President

irst Step In

Turning Trams Over To Army

BY HARRY S. McALPIN

(Washington Bureau, Atlanta Daily World and NNPA)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(SNS)—With violence flaring up in sporadic incidents in Philadelphia the War Labor Board, in extraordinary session Wednesday voted unanimously to refer the quote wildcat unquote strike of employes of the Philadelphia Transit Company, resulting from the hiring of eight Negroes as operators, to the White House.

The move is a prelude to the probable seizure of the of the Transit system by the government to be operated by the Army.

Chairman William H. Davis, of the WLB, called the special session at noon today. Meeting with the board were Jonathan Daniels, administrative assistant to the president; Brigadier General Edward S. Greenbaum of the War Department; Sylvester Garrett, WLB regional director of the Philadelphia area; and Eli Rock, director of the disputes division of the W. L. B. Philadelphia region.

Garrett, in making his report on the whole situation to the board, indicated the matter hinged on the FEPC order to the Philadelphia Transit Company to discontinue its discriminatory policy of hiring, although the company, when the plan to hire Negroes was announced, said it was being done as the result of the War Manpower Commission referral plan.

8-3-44

Reports from Philadelphia indicate that over one hundred Negroes have been arrested as result of sporadic outbreaks of racial clashes. The Army is believed to have troops poised to put down any serious racial trobule.

Races Fight As Result Of Strike Over Upgrading

President Urged To Seize System; Leaders Indignant

PHILADELPHIA — (SNS) — The City of Brotherly Love continued in turmoil Wednesday as the result of the racially-inspired transit strike, while the Citizens' Committee — composed of Negro and white leaders—asked Mayor Bernard Samuel to declare marital law to prevent a resumption of fighting and gang looting.

The committee also asked Pres. Roosevelt to seize the paralyzed transportation system, stating that if "the tolerance and reaction" is permitted to continue it will be "the beginning of the spread of reaction against other minority peoples, particularly Jews and Catholics."

The race disorders broke out Tuesday night after a work stoppage stranded many of the city's 1,500,000 daily riders of buses, trolleys and subway trains and cut heavily into war production.

Upward of 6,000 white operators and workers had been seized with an "epidemic" of alleged sickness after Negroes had been put to work as motormen on the transit system. Hiring of Negroes as trolley car motormen had come after a nine-month fight by workers through the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice and a CIO Union which recently won bargaining rights.

CASE TO F. D. R. 8-3-44

In Washington, Jonathan W. Daniels, administrative assistant to President Roosevelt, told reporters the case probably would be referred to the President.

Here, a spokesman for Frank L. McNamee, regional War Manpower Commission director, said McNamee "will not compromise in the dispute but will stand by his order to the Philadelphia Transportation Company to upgrade Negroes to operating jobs."

Early Wednesday gangs of armed whites and Negroes roamed the streets, smashing windows and attacking and injuring persons of the opposite races, police said. During the early afternoon, there were no reports of race skirmishes in the city for several hours.

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People sent a telegram to Mayor Samuel saying Negro leaders could "not be responsible for what will happen" unless the Negro community is assured that "the strikers' sentiments do not represent the official sentiments of the community."

A large number of white employes of the transit company at a mass meeting heard a few alleged leaders propose to ask a Government-sponsored vote on the issue of the employment of Negroes as drivers.

Frank P. Carney, white, president of the independent white union, told a mass meeting of strikers Tuesday night that "we don't want Negroes and we won't work with Negroes . . . . this is a white man's job. Put the Negroes back where they belong—back on the roadway."

700 YOUTH ARRESTED

8-3-44

Philadelphia police late Wednesday arrested upwards of 700 young men of both races on charges varying from malicious mischief to aggravated assault and battery and carrying concealed deadly weapons. Some 3,000 city policemen and 7,00 auxiliary policemen were on duty. Fist fights, the hurling of milk bottles at passing automobiles and the smashing of house and store windows sent police cars scurring from one section of the city to another. At least 10 persons were hurt one critically thousands crowded the street, some reportedly carrying clubs. Liquor sales were halted as a precautionary move pending settlement of the dispute.

In some cases gangs looted grocery stores, taprooms and drug stores after smashing the windows. The gangs, police said, were made up of teen-age boys armed with bricks, bottles, stones, clubs, knives or guns.

LEADERS INDIGNANT

Negro leaders voiced deep indignation over the "strike" of white PTC workers, branding their actions as 'un-American." Said the Rev. Marshall L. Shepard, prominent clergeman:

"It is most unfortunate that at a time when Negroes are dying on foreign battlefields to preserve democracy, that prejudice and bigotry should flame high on the home front, killing the very thing they are fighting for."

Raymond Pace Alexander, well known barrister, declared: "It is the most un-American and undemocratic thing that he ever happened in Philadelphia.

"Suppose Negro workers decided to turn about. There are about 300,000 Negro workers in this area, may of them employed in war work—suppose they laid down their tools in protest. Much of the war work would be crippled.

"For the past 50 years, Negroes have devoted themselves to the task of upgrading. We do not ask to be allowed to eat in the Bellevue-Stratford Hotel. But we do want the opportunity to wok.

"Of the 1,000,000,000 Philadephians (car riders using the PTC system annually, 130,000,000 are Negroes—about 13 per cent. We do not have as many people offering means of transportation. We do not have as many people offering us rides to work. We ask for a basic, fundamental right to work—in this case, the right to operate trolley cars.

Negro maintenance men could have thrown the PTC system out of gear had they wanted to. Instead they waited for a peaceful solution of the problems."

SAD COMMENTARY

Commented Dr. John P. Turner, assistant police sureon:

"This is a sad comentary on the supposed democracy born right here in Philadelphia. It will not be solved until the hearts of the people are right—and the hearts of the people here are not right.

"Our Negroes have died on battlefields. How do you suppose a Negro mother feels when she has lost a son and now finds her second son deprived of a decent means of earning a living—the thing her dead boy fought for.

"This shows nothing but strife—strife—strife."

Mrs. Carolyn Devenport Moore, executive secretary of the NAACP, declared:

"This strike apparently is motivated by a few men who do not know what this war is all about—men with deep-rooted prejudices.

"If thousands of Negroes can do such work in Chicago, New York, Cleveland and other cities, then why can they not perform such tasks in Philadelphia"?

In Little Rock, Repersentative J. W. Fullbright (Democrat, Ark.) urged President Roosevelt to use his authority to "curb an evident tendency on the part of the FEPC to take action which stirs controversy between white and Negro workers."

FEPC ISSUES DIRECTIVE

In December, 1943, FEPC issued a directive ordering PTC and the independent employees union to cease discriminating against Negroes because of their race and color. The company countered that its contract with its union prevented using Negroes in jobs they had never held before. The union refused to revise its interpretation of its contract and later called on the Smith Congerssional Committe to investigate the FEPC. The committee never made a report. In the intervening months, the CIO defeated the PRT independent union.

In July, the transportation company announced that it would accept applications for transfers and new male workers, without regard to race, creed, color or national origin. Over 60 Negroes applied for transfer and last Saturday the first eight were put in classes. Monday they were instructed on the special track of the PTC which stimulates every type of track and traffic condition. Tuesday, the first men were to begin training on the streets, without picking up passengers. The strike came as they reported for this street training.

35j-1944

Bias Halts Philly Transportation

People's voice — New York, N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA — The threat of military law hung over the City of Brotherly Love and police had been called out to quell possible disturbances as PV went to press early Wednesday morning, as the result of a general, unauthorized transportation strike which started here at 5 am Tuesday. Hell broke loose when race hating crewmen of the Philadelphia Transportatoin Company walked out in protest to the upgrading of Negro employes from unskilled jobs to motormen, paralyzing the city's transportation system and leaving thousands of defense workers stranded far from their jobs in this critical war area.

The strike broke out in the car barn 8-5-44 where eight men were scheduled to go into the advanced part of their training by taking street cars over their regular routes under the supervision of experienced white operators. The Negro workers, who had already been in training for several weeks, had been ordered into the employment of the PTC by a War Manpower Commission stabilization plan which forbids discrimination in the hiring of workers on account of race, creed or color.

Transport Workers Union officials declared that the strike was unauthorized and that they were not in sympathy with it. National union officials pleaded with workers by radio and other means to return to their work.

C. James Fleming, head of the regional FEPC office in Philadelphia, told PV that representatives of the War Manpower Commission, his committee, and other government officials had held conferences all day Tuesday in an effort to stop the strike. 8-5-44

TWU officials wired Attorney General Biddle to investigate the matter, expressing their belief that enemy agents were at the bottom of it. The NAACP wired President Roosevelt asking him "to stand firm against the strikers who were protesting the upgrading of Negro Americans," declaring that if the strikers won, the whole fight for equal job opportunities for all racial groups would be lost.

Late Tuesday, PTC representatives consulted with the FEPC, asking permission to post notices in the car barns stating that the War Manpower Commission directive ordering the indiscriminate hiring of Negroes was vacated. This the FEPC refused to do. 8-5-44

TWU officials blamed the stoppage on "a small clique of disgruntled, self-seeking people who do not represent the real sentiment of PTC employees." These individuals, they said "have shown a callous disregard of the war effort and orders of the government."

Agencies Seek To Settle

Daily World - Atlanta, Georgia, August 2, 1944

Hate Walkout In Philly

Transit Workers Strike When Eight Negroes Start Working

8-2-44

BY HARRY S. McALPIN

(Washington Bureau, Atlanta Daily World)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—Government agencies in Washington and Philadelphia, and the Transport Workers Union (CIO) were frantically trying to settle the "wildcat" strike in Philadelphia of the motormen and bus drivers of the Philadelphia Transport Company who walked off the job this morning at four o'clock because eight Negroes were to begin training as operators in accordance with a war manpower commission referral plan which provided no discrimination in the hiring of workers.

8-2-44

More than 8,00 Transit Workers are reported to have stayed off the job reporting they were "ill." The "epidemic" spread to the repair shops before the day ended.

Officials of the TWU (CIO) described the walkout as unauthorized and agreed with company officials that the assignment of the Negroes for training purposes was made under the WMC referral plan. The TWU has asked Attorney General Biddle to investigate, saying it believed enemy agents fostered the walkout to "incite race riots and hamper war production."

The War Labor Board directed tis Philadelphia Regional Board to assume jurisdiction in the walkout. The board said its action followed discussion with the U. S. Labor Department's concilation service. The Regional WLB holds full authority to order the strike ended and to direct negotiations for a settlement of grievances.

With the union opposing the strike. However, there seems to be no leadership in the strike to which to appeal for negotiations. The Transit Company averages a load of one million passengers a day. Most of these are workers in the Philadelphia-Camden area, which is rated by the WMC as the second one most important war production area in the country. 8-2-44

The fear of racial trouble as result of the strike has led to the closing of all liquor stores in Philadelphia, and the assignment of ten thousand auxiliary policemen to precincts throughout the city. There is a possibility the Army may have troops readily available in event of "trouble."

The situation Tuesday evening was like a powder keg, with no one knowing where to locate the fuse in order to snuff it out.

L. A. Transit Line Will Hire Negroes

PM - New York, N.Y.

8-11-44

Special Correspondence

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 11.—The Fair Employment Practices Committee announced, after a one-day hearing here, that the Los Angeles Railway Co. and union officials had agreed to end the ban on hiring Negroes as street car motormen and conductors.

During the hearing, company spokesmen and officials of Local 1277 of the Amalgamated Assn. of Street Railway Employes, AFL, expressed willingness to comply with the President's no-discrimination order if the Government would take steps to curb any protest demonstrations that might follow.

The Enemy's Challenge in Philadelphia

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

Every bus, trolley, subway and "el" train in Philadelphia was at a standstill yesterday for the second day. Eight Negro porters were to be upgraded to run trolleys. Leaders of a defeated company union, some AFL leaders and a clique of treasonous elements, bent on disrupting war morale, exploited prejudice to confront Philadelphia with a No. 1 war crisis. 8-3-44

The CIO Transport Workers Union, which fought Jimcrow boldly in the organizing campaign which made it sole bargaining agent at the Philadelphia Transportation Co., is doing everything possible to end the strike.

The War Manpower Commission, which had ordered the up-grading of the Negroes with the backing of an almost unanimous vote of CIO PTC stewards, stood its ground. Both the union and the WMC stand firmly for the patriotic principle of full employment rights for the Negro people.

Already, as earlier in Detroit, there is evidence that the same sinister forces that produced the transport strike, are moving to carry their disruption further. Incidents between Negro and white, widespread arrests, and growing tension give indication of what might come. Community action now can stop that. The prosecution of those responsible must be demanded, especially those who in the past have attempted to torpedo national unity by spreading race hatred, anti-Semitism and anti-war propaganda. 8-3-44

This must not be permitted to become an issue in the elections. There is no partisanship in the maintenance of democracy and the crushing of those who would introduce Hitlerism into American life. Forces in all parties, bent on such un-American policies, must be exposed and brought to justice. United community action in Philadelphia must do that job today.

Their positions must be upheld. No retreat is possible in the forward march of the people, the government and labor against Jimcrow. This is not just a strike that interrupts war production, paralyzes the life of the city, and violates labor's pledge. It is much more. 8-3-44

It is undoubtedly true—and the facts bear it out—that disgruntled elements of the defeated company union and unfortunately some prejudice-blinded AFL leaders bear responsibility for this shocking provocation which even now provokes disorders reminiscent of Detroit's worst days in Philadelphia. But what stands out above all is the hand of open enemy agents, carrying Hitler disruption into the labor movement and getting results.

The company has encouraged the present disgraceful situation. Jimcrow was long its policy. Only the CIO and government's war-time program cracked it. Even now PTC demands the rescinding of the order upgrading Negroes as the solution of the strike.

action now. A firm hand by government must speed a back-to-work movement. There can be no concessions to the sowers of race hate, no conditions governing return.

Philadelphia, cradle of America's liberty, must recognize its responsibility to the nation. AFL and CIO unions, labor of all affiliations, should present a solid front to the workers, appealing for their return and making them realize the un-American, 8-3-44

This is a situation demanding clear-cut

Jamaican Farm Workers Send SOS

People's Voice—New York, N.Y.

A two-day strike was conducted in Port Jefferson, L.I., last week by 150 Jamaican farm workers brought to this country by the Department of Agriculture to relieve the farm-labor shortage. 8-5-44

A PV reporter went to the labor camp in response to a telegram from the farm laborers, which read: "Treatment of colored farm laborers intolerable. Full support needed. Send us representative immediately." This is what he found:

● **the workers complained of being underpaid (their contracts called for prevailing wage scales) and overworked; and their resentment had flamed into defiance when one farmer-employer was said to have called them "black Jamaican bastards;"**

8-5-44

● **the men had refused to work Monday until some adjustment had been made;**

● **at a meeting between a council formed by the laborers and the farmers on Tuesday, the rough treatment by the farmers and the unequal wage scale between American and Jamaican farm workers were discussed;**

● **An agreement was reached at the conference and the men returned to their work on Wednesday.**

Only three farmers were accused of treating the workers harshly, but the issue of wages was more general. Farmers were accused of paying them only six cents a bushel for picking and the picking was poor due to the drought. 8-5-44

Proof that the Jamaicans were paid less than the Americans was not available. However, the farm county agent ruled that the men were to be paid at least 50 cents an hour for picking when the picking was poor.

Imported workers had no fault to find with the labor camp itself. Their main complaint was that they came to this country in the belief that they would earn from $75 to $100 a week, when in reality they had been able to earn only $22 at the highest.

LASELVE DaCOSTA AND LAURENCE HENRY, leaders in the Workers Council negotiations at Port Jefferson—(PV foto).

Wise Leadership

Birmingham, Ala. Post

A Philadelphia dispatch from Fred W. Perkins yesterday gave credit to Negro leaders for helping to put down the hoodlumism that marked the early stages of that city's recent transportation strike, with its provocative racial aspect. They distributed handbills and posters calling on Negroes to keep their heads and tempers, made radio appeals in the same vein, and were active in other ways. There is little doubt that their efforts helped largely in limiting the scope of the disturbances.

This is something to be noted in other cities where racial tensions exist. No perfect solution of "the Negro problem" is visible. To deny that prejudice and unfairness exist would be fatuous. To say that these can be conquered overnight would be equally so. But the sober counsel of fair-minded men, both white and Negro, can at least help to keep within bounds the occasional outbreaks among foolish members of both races who think deep-seated social and economic problems can be adjudicated with brickbats. 8-10-44

Communities which fear racial clashes would do well to get white and Negro leaders together now—not after such a clash has occurred—to plan "psychological warfare" against the tensions that threaten to disturb the peace.

And if they did violate the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act by interfering with Army operations, as is charged against four strike leaders, then any attempt to punish them is a sinister conspiracy engineered by a guy Pegler never liked anyway.

And Pegler, you will recall, is the lad who achieved his first fame as a columnist by approving the lynching of two men in San Jose, Calif.—K. P.

Grand Jury Convenes On Philadelphia Strike

Birmingham, Ala. News 8-9-44

PHILADELPHIA (AP) —A Federal Grand Jury convened Wednesday morning to investigate the city's recent six-day transit strike while Negro trainees, whose upgrading to drivers' jobs precipitated the strike, resumed training Wednesday.

Assistant U. S. Atty. Edward A. Kelly indicated the jury was prepared to go beyond provisions of the Smith-Connally anti-strike act.

"We might find a conspiracy to sabotage the war effort," he said, "in which case we would not be confined to the Smith-Connally act, but would then proceed under the more drastic provisions of the Second War Powers act, which carries much more drastic penalties."

(Atty. General Francis Biddle, at Billings, Mont., Tuesday night, en route to the West Coast, asked about possible causes of the tieup, said he believed there was a "conspiracy." He said he and other federal officials would make certain upgrading of the Negro employes is carried out.) 8-9-44

As the government prepared to summon before the jury officials of the Philadelphia Transportation Company, the CIO Transport Workers Union, strikers and government war agency officials, the Army, which took over operation of the lines under orders of President Roosevelt, announced resumption of training for both white and Negro operators.

Meanwhile, armed guards continued to ride every bus, trolley, subway and subway-elevated as the Army studied reports on 181 employes who failed to show up for work Monday on the first day of restored service.

In the first disclosure of action which formented the walkout, James J. Fitzsimon, international vice president of the T. W. U., said P. T. C. workers voted on July 18—two weeks before the walkout—to go on strike over the company's upgrading of eight Negroes.

A second strike vote was taken July 25, Fitzsimon said, adding that both were taken on company property.

P. M. New York, N.Y. AN EDITORIAL 8-9-44

Pouting Pegler Champions Hate Strikers

Westbrook Pegler is out crusading for lynch law again.

In what Pegler himself has described as "my pouting, juvenile way" he yesterday rushed to the defense of the leaders and strikers who staged the Philadelphia race hate transit walkout. Because "some of the coverage and discussion" of the anti-Negro strike "has been so confused and ignorant," says the Pouting Juvenile, "the public cannot understand the fundamental issues."

But Pegler, of course, does.

Stripped of the now familiar declarations that Pegler doesn't like President Roosevelt or Sidney Hillman or the CIO and that all of them bear the Pegler brand "Communist," his argument goes this wise:

(1) The strikers and their leaders were rebelling against the CIO Transport Workers' Union, and

(2) Since the race hate strike was a "rebellion" against people Pegler doesn't like, it is "gratuitous, irrelevant and prejudicial" to declare that strike leaders broke the law, that the strike provided Berlin and Tokyo with a windfall of propaganda, that tens of thousands of workers were kept from their jobs, and wages, for five days and that the man-hours lost to war production were the equivalent of 267 Flying Fortresses or five destroyers.

Further, runs the Pegler logic, Attorney General Biddle talked to Sidney Hillman in Chicago. Therefore, the FBI "will uphold the Communist adherents of Sidney Hillman." 8-9-44

And here's where the Pegler defense of lynch law, if used to defend the Pegler ideals, comes in: Not all the Philadelphia transit workers voted for the TWU and therefore since it did not represent them—according to the Pouting Juvenile—they were free to strike against the promotion of eight Negroes and their leaders were free to interfere with U. S. Army operation of the transit system. A minority, siding with Pegler, is free to flout the law, even including the Smith-Connally Anti-Strike Act which Pegler surely doesn't disapprove.

35j-1944

Today's Guest Column

Daily Worker New York 8-10-44

America's Postwar Lesson in Phila. Strike Must Be Learned

by Alphaeus Hunton

(Pinchhitting for Max Yergan)

THE immediate urgency and gravity of the problem of stamping out Jimcrowism struck this country last week with the impact of a thunderbolt. The shameful Philadelphia Rapid Transit walkout engineered by our home-grown fascists was not only an attack upon the Negro; it was an attack upon the American government and the American people. There could have been no sharper and plainer warning of the danger which America and the world face if victory over fascism falls short of meaning victory over the doctrine and practice of "white supremacy." Neither could there have been any better demonstration of the effectiveness of a broad democratic policy backed up by the proper authority and forthright action as the means of achieving such a victory.

A New York Times editorial last Monday, in speaking of the great "spiritual and moral loss" entailed by the crisis in Philadelphia, asked, "What shall we say to the Negro fighting men? What shall we say to the Chinese, the Filipinos, the people of India and to others whom we need as friends and allies but whose skins are of a slightly different color from that of most Americans?"

The answer given to these vital questions was: "All we can say, indeed, is that the United States Government, supported by the mass of enlightened opinion of this country, will not tolerate racial discrimination in the matter of war jobs." Very fine. But is that all? Such an answer can hardly satisfy the many millions here and abroad who are concerned about what kind of example the United States will set for the postwar world in the treatment of its own minority groups, and what kind of leadership this country will give to the United Nations in the framing of democratic policies for colonial and semi-colonial peoples.

The Times editorial does, indeed, declare that what happened in the City of Brotherly Love "ought to lead to an emphatic reaffirmation of human rights in this country." The sincerity of this laudable observation is brought into question, however, by the sentences immediately following in which the scope of "human rights" is limited "simply and solely" to the matter of "equality of economic opportunity." Is the Times so naive as to believe that economic democracy can be achieved side by side with social and political discrimination?

* * *

THE decisive manner in which the weight of federal authority was brought to bear in Philadelphia to uphold a decision of the Fair Employment Practices Committee points the way in which the government must attack racial discrimination all down the line. Congress must give permanent status and adequate authority to the FEPC so that postwar employment as well as war jobs may be open to all without discrimination, and it must adopt legislation to abolish the polltax and end Jimcrowism in all other areas of our social life. That is the will of the vast majority of the American people.

President Roosevelt established the FEPC in order to insure the full use of all available manpower in our war production program. That was a national necessity. Once the war is won, the world will face the pressing necessity of securing full production and full employment in order to win the peace. Somewhere between three-fifths and two-thirds of the world population is made up of darker-skinned peoples, the vast majority of whom have been under the domination of European or American imperialism.

* * * 8-10-44

TOGETHER with the wide extension of credits, loans and trade for developing colonial and semi-colonial regions, in order to bring them within a world-wide system of prosperity and plenty, there must be guarantees that the peoples in these regions will enjoy modern labor standards and freedom from color-bar restrictions. Such guarantees were framed last spring at the International Labor Organization meeting in Philadelphia. They must be enforced by an international authority with the same vigor with which our federal government acted in the Philadelphia transit case.

America has the task of reenforcing democracy on the home front and of playing a key role in the program of the United Nations for extending democracy to all peoples throughout the world. It is **one** task; the accomplishment of either part of it necessitates the accomplishment of the other.

Strike Leaders Deliberately Faked 'Jobs for Vets' Issue

PM N.Y., N.Y. 8-7-44

PHILADELPHIA

A lie—a simple, direct, contemptible lie—was used in organizing and carrying on the strike of traction workers here which halted all street car, bus and subway-elevated service, caused the loss of millions of man-hours of war production and brought U. S. troops to the city to restore passenger service.

The lie used by strike leaders and many strikers to justify themselves is the sort that can be used to inflame passion and make the liars seem the righteous defenders of justice.

The truth is more complex than the lie. To understand the truth and see that strike leaders are lying requires a minute or two of thought.

Here is the lie: "We are striking to protect the seniority of Philadelphia Transportation Co workers now in the Army."

Strike leaders say, and many strikers repeat, that some of the eight Negroes who were being trained as street car operators had been with the company for years and if they became operators they would have more seniority than some PTC workers now in the Army when those workers return from the war. 8-7-44

The Negroes would have jobs, the white veterans would be idle, say strike leaders.

The strike leaders were trying to hide their race hate behind a faked concern for the welfare of the veterans.

Here is the truth: Senority systems have two purposes, to protect a worker against arbitrary firing or layoff by setting the principle that the first man to be laid off shall be the last one hired, the last man to be laid off shall be the one with the greatest amount of service; and, second, to establish who shall be entitled to such benefits as vacations and paid sick leave.

There are two general kinds of seniority, one plant—or system-wide, the other departmental. Under plant—or system-wide seniority the worker with the greatest amount of service is last to be laid off. Thus, if bus drivers were being laid off and porters still were needed, a bus driver with 10 years of service could displace a porter with eight years of service. This is called "bumping."

Under the departmental seniority system a worker gets seniority protection, as regards lay-offs, only in his department. The last man in the department, no matter how long he worked for the employer, would be first laid off. He could not transfer to another department solely because of his seniority. 8-7-44

The Philadelphia Transportation Co. has departmental seniority, only it is called "location seniority," because the traction industry has its own terminology. The job seniority of a Negro welder, or porter, who becomes an operator starts the day he starts work as an operator. Even though he has been with the company for 10 years as a porter or welder, when he works his first day as an operator he has exactly one day's job seniority. Any operator who has worked as an operator for six months, even for six days, outranks the Negro operator.

The strike leaders, such as James H. McMenamin, know they lie when they say they fight to protect the seniority of veterans. McMenamin was president of the PTC company union and departmental—not system-wide seniority was negotiated by that union when it was in power.

It is significant that the first street car to move after the race-hate strike leaders caused the tie-up was manned by two veterans of this war. They know the strike was not to protect their buddies, they knew McMenamin and his "seniority issue" are phony.

—KARL PRETSHOLD

Toward Freedom

Lessons of the Transit Strike in Philadelphia

by Doxie Wilkerson

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

THE Philadelphia transit strike is only secondarily an expression of antagonism against the up-grading of Negro workers. It is primarily an organized attack against legitimate trade unionism and the war-government of our nation. As such, it holds important lessons for our country as a whole, and especially for the trade union movement. 8-7-44

Marxists have repeatedly pointed out that the rise of fascism and the necessities of this anti-fascist war have raised the traditional "Negro problem" to a new plane of urgency; that its prompt and fundamental solution can no longer be regarded as an ethical question of social justice, but must be viewed as a political question of national survival; and that the interests of all Americans require that the whole power of our government be thrown behind effective measures to uproot the virus of anti-Negroism—NOW.

Let us hope that the validity of these premises is at last being jolted into the consciousness of our nation by the outrageous Philadelphia strike which, as this is written, still continues in flagrant defiance of federal authority and with shocking disdain for the critical war needs of our country. 8.7.44

We must be intolerant of such "liberal" interpretations of this crisis as that set forth in I. F. Stone's dissertation on the rottenness of the "common man" (PM, Aug. 4). They contribute only confusion to a situation which our continued existence as a free nation now requires that we understand with utmost clarity.

* * *

HERE is a situation in which (1) a would-be open-shop company still hopes to defeat legitimate unionism with which it is now legally obligated to bargain; (2) disgruntled leaders of a defeated company union still hope to regain their positions of prestige and power; (3) a rotten Republican city administration is eager to embarrass President Roosevelt, if for none other than narrow partisan reasons; and (4) even more sinister enemies of our nation are alert to an opportunity to disrupt vital war production in Hitler's hour of greatest need.

The up-grading of eight Negro workers by FEPC order provides the occasion for the outbreak. The latent prejudices of the white workers afford the means of mobilizing them against their own and the nation's interests.

But the basic cause of this insurrection lies in the selfish and treasonous purposes of the

THIS is what lies behind the transportation tie-up in Philadelphia. And here are some of the main lessons Detroit, Beaumont, Los Angeles, Mobile, New York, and which we now struggle to curb in Philadelphia.

8-7-44

In the immediate situation, federal troops must act. First, the federal government must vigorously to wipe out every vestige of institutionalized racial (and religious) discrimination. Failure to do so leaves our nation vulnerable to precisely such attacks by our enemies as those we witnessed earlier in

...s who want to return to the lines. The Attorney General should throw McMenamin and all his co-conspirators in jail quickly.

In longer perspective, there must be passed and enforced, as a conscious and consistent national policy, whatever federal legislation is necessary to protect our country from such outrages. 8-7-44

Second, our trade unions, all of them, must place the education of their members on the "Negro question" uppermost on their agendas. Otherwise, as at Western Electric in Baltimore and elsewhere, they will find their organizing and bargaining efforts defeated on the false grounds of anti-Negroism. Much has been done along this line already, especially by the CIO, but the situation in Philadelphia is a measure of the vastness of the task still to be accomplished.

* * *

HISTORY has catapulted the "Negro problem" into the forefront of national and international affairs. It can no longer be laid aside for future attention.

Philadelphia Inquirer Should Be Thorough

Courier Journal, Louisville, Ky.

The Philadelphia transit strike was as ugly and depressing an event as could have been imagined on the home front. Six thousands workers tying up the transportation facilities of a war production center for five days all because eight Negroes had been promoted to operating jobs present a spectacle that is at once sad and sinister. It shows to what extent prejudice can be fanned not in a shabby mill town, cursed by ignorance and frustration, but in a presumably enlightened metropolitan community, and to what length prejudice can go not merely in defiance of ordinary fairness and decency but actually in defiance of the national interest. 8-9-44

The SMITH-CONNALLY Act will serve a useful purpose, as it has not often done since it was adopted, if its provisions insure the swift and severe punishment of the ringleaders who played with this dynamite. And the charge of the C.I.O. union leaders that there is surface evidence of company collusion with the strikers ought to be very thoroughly investigated by the federal grand jury which is to convene today, especially in justice to the company if it is innocent. The C.I.O. leaders stand in a weak position to make a charge. The C.I.O. has been exceedingly boastful about its anti-discriminatory policies and has not hesitated to appeal to Negro workers on that ground. Yet this test revealed the C.I.O. leadership completely and conspicuously unable to lead.

One of the curious features of the strike was that the employes just a few months ago chose the C.I.O. union as their bargaining agent in an election in which a company union and an A.F.L. union also sought that designation. And in the campaign preceding the election, the C.I.O. leaders, including PHILIP MURRAY, had made it plain their organization was opposed to discrimination against Negroes in employment. If the workers could select C.I.O. in these circumstances, is it too much to believe that, had the C.I.O. followed through with a forehanded educational program, pointing out that what was asked was no more than a full use of available manpower and fair play for Negroes—the same fair play existing in many another Philadelphia company's employment terms—the workers might have been amenable to reason? 8-9-44

But the C.I.O. apparently neglected this opportunity and now cries company collusion, evidently in the belief the company used the occasion to split the workers from the C.I.O. leaders. The truth or falsity of the accusation imperatively needs to be demonstrated, the more so since previous company policy had been against upgrading Negroes and it had done so under protest at the direction of the Fair Employment Practises Committee.

Dixie Senator Blames FEPC for Philly Strike

In New York Daily 8-10-44

Makes Charge Without Awaiting Probe Findings

PM's Bureau

WASHINGTON, Aug. 10. — Without waiting for the outcome of the current Grand Jury investigation, Sen. Richard Russell (D. Ga.) has charged the Fair Employment Practices Committee with responsibility for the Philadelphia transit strike.

Russell told the Senate yesterday the strike over the promotion of eight Negroes to operating jobs was "deliberately precipitated by" the FEPC, which he said was "presided over by starry-eyed professional reformers and largely staffed and directed by professional Negroes, meaning thereby those who make a profession of claiming Negro leadership and agitating members of their race."

Didn't Mention Co.

Russell talked for an hour without once mentioning the activities of the company union in stirring up trouble. He charged over and over that both the company and the employes had opposed the FEPC, but did not mention the labor board election in which the CIO won although it supported the Negroes.

The Georgia Senator talked as though everything was perfect before the FEPC intervened. He said "all was peaceful and harmonious" and the company was doing a fine job until the FEPC interfered because it considered "it more important to impose its own ideas of social reform than to win the war."

Calls It Object Lesson

8-10-44

Denouncing the use of Government powers to break the Philadelphia strike, but not in other ...ers, Russell said "if similar measures had been employed in any other strike, any one or all of them could have been ended within 24 hours."

"I doubt whether more drastic means have ever been employed by a totalitarian state," Russell added. "This discrimination is significant. I am forced to the conclusion that these unusually drastic moves were used to serve as an object lesson to employes who oppose the FEPC."

Russell charged that the FEPC had "drummed up" the Negro applicants for the jobs in order to "force social equality and intermingling of races."

Asks for Probe

He called for the Grand Jury to investigate the FEPC's activities in fomenting the strike.

The Georgia Senator then warned the FEPC not to try to enforce its policies in the South, saying "I shudder to think of the consequences if the FEPC attempts to re-enact the Philadelphia story in any large Southern city."

Asserting that he was not making threats, but merely stating facts in an appeal to those responsible, Russell said:

"I contend myself with the bald statement that if the FEPC invades the South with its blind determination to enforce its social views upon the Southern people, it will not only be disastrous to the early victory in this great war, but it will set in motion a train of events that will endanger the future peace and welfare of all of the American people."

Calls FEPC 'Threat'

Asserting that he had never used the Negro issue in his campaign, Russell told the Senate he was discussing it only in the "best interests of the whites and the Negroes."

"The FEPC is a greater threat to victory than a hundred fresh divisions enrolled beneath Hitler's swastika or the Rising Sun of Japan. The President should immediately discharge these marplots. If he fails to take this step, Congress cannot escape its responsibility if it does not provide some curbs on its vast powers."

PHILADELPHIA STRIKE A HARD BLOW

War Work Suffers as Transit Employes Keep Up Fight

8-6-44

Times-Herald New York, N.Y.

By WALTER W. RUCH

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 5—Racial intolerance erupted this week in the birthplace of American liberty to provide Berlin and Tokyo with a windfall of propaganda. 8-6-44

This reaction to the paralyzing strike called by 6,000 operators of the Philadelphia Transportation Company in protest against the employment of Negroes in similar positions was shared by both military and civil leaders and was accentuated when, after the Army had taken control of the strike-bound property, the leaders of the walkout refused to end it. Today the State Guard was mobilized and Regulars reached the scene.

That violence occurred in Philadelphia between Negroes and whites, as it did on a large scale Tuesday night and early Wednesday, came as a surprise to few. Friction had been increasing between the two races for several years.

Clash of Groups

The strike, commencing at 4 A. M. Tuesday, followed the initiation by the PTC, under orders of the War Manpower Commission and the recommendation of the Fair Employment Practices Committee, of a training program for Negro workers to enable them to become operators of carriers.

Seven months earlier the Philadelphia Rapid Transit Employes Union, an independent union named for the corporate forerunner of the PTC, had challenged the powers of the FEPC before a Congressional Committee in Washington. 8-6-44

Th... RTEU was replaced subsequently as the collective bargaining agent for the PTC employes by the Transport Workers Union after a labor board election. The TWU campaigned on the ground that it followed the CIO policy of no discrimination because of race, creed or color and polled 4,410 votes as against 1,815 for the PRTEU and 1,635 for the AFL Amalgamated Association of Employes. As the strike wore on, its peculiar aspects began to take form and more persons were inclined to the belief that, at bottom, the cause of the walkout was both the racial issue and a rebellion against TWU leadership of the union. Put another way, it appeared that anti-TWU factions among the employes had seized on the racial issue to provoke a strike to embarrass the majority union.

...er the PRTEU questions, it appeared that more ...ming agent for ...tterly unable to ...work movement ... strike?

...rikers willing to ...ns of men who ...closure of their ...admitted it was ...after disowning the strik... Why were the strikers ... follow the directions of ... either withheld disclosu... 8-6-44

...overwhelmingly over th... as collective bargaining ... the employes, so utterly ... direct a back-to-work ...

...answer to these

35j-1944

Editorial

UNUSUAL CAUSE

Guardian — Boston, Mass.
6-3-44

As PM would say, "Hats Off" to the striking employees of the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Company in Bridgeport, Pennsylvania. The five hundred white employees are on strike there not because of any wrongs which they themselves directly suffer but because of the company's alleged unfairness to colored fellow-workers. It is not a wage dispute nor a controversy whether this union or that should represent the workers nor a demand for renewal of a contract. None of these questions, usually uppermost in labor troubles, caused the Bridgeport strike. We have it from the strikers' own lips that it is partly a protest against unsanitary conditions under which colored employees have to work and partly a protest charging the company with discrimination in failing to promote workers because of color.

The strikers appear to know that by bringing relief to any working group they strengthen the cause of all labor and push forward the whole democratic structure. We shall need a great deal more of this kind of unity and cooperation to overcome native fascism and "win the peace" on the home front.

Strikers Deserve Pity

(An Editorial)

THE MEN who led the strike which paralyzed the transportation system of Philadelphia last week are not alone to blame for the wanton interference with the war effort and the reckless disregard for the rights of the general public.

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.

True it is that the actions of the employees who stopped all subways and elevated trains, all street cars and all buses operated by the P. T. C. when these facilities were vitally needed by workers to get to their jobs borders on treason. Newspapers have properly branded their procedure as disgraceful, shameful and wicked.

8-12-44

Most of the letters published in the newspapers condemn the actions of the P. T. C. workers as disgustingly stupid. All of which is agreed to.

The known ringleaders have been arrested. In all probability they will be indicted, and properly punished. And they should be.

Those who think they know the answers point out that the employment of a few colored men who are being trained as motormen and conductors is not the real cause for the disastrous situation which forced thousands of soldiers who are needed at the front to take over the Philadelphia Transportation System. These claim that it is an effort to destroy the Transport Workers Union which defeated the P. R. T. Employees' Union in an election to determine the bargaining agent for the workers with the P. T. C. There is evidence to prove that there is much merit in this contention. Apparently the strike was too thoroughly organized to be no more than a sporadic outbreak because a few Negroes were being trained to operate street cars.

8-12-44

There are others who take the position that the officials of the P. T. C. conspired with their former henchmen who controlled the P. R. T. Employees' Union in an effort to discredit the TWU. There are certain indications which tend to prove that the Company officials at least knew what was happening and did nothing about it. In all events the Company officials were willing to capitulate immediately after the strike was called. Notices of surrender to the demands of the employees which were contrary to the orders of the Federal Government were on hand ready for distribution when the clouds first appeared.

But the fact remains that regardless of the real reason for the sneak attack which helped Hitler and Hirohito, the one openly stated was that the men stopped work because eight Negroes were being trained to operate street cars.

It was stated by the strike committee that the men would return to work immediately upon agreement that Negroes would not be permitted to operate street cars. The issue on its face therefore is one of narrow race prej-

Thoughtful people are now saying that it is outrageous for 6,000 men to tie up the transportation system of the second largest war production area in America. They are seeking for the punishment of its leaders. They want the Government to crack down hard on those responsible for the disaster which came to millions of people.

8-12-44

The strike projected American race prejudice across the world in all its horrible nakedness. Perhaps no other single event since the Civil War has shown so effectively the horrible results which flow from the racial prejudice which Americans have so stupidly held lovingly to their bosoms.

It is important during times like these to keep the record straight, to dig beneath the surface and face the hard, cruel truth.

Why was it possible for the McMenamins, the Carneys, and the Dixeys to appeal so effectively to the racial prejudices of the majority of the P. T. C. workers? All their lives these men have been taught that by being whites they are superior to all colored people. It is a stupid and foolish belief but they think that they have special privileges and rights because they have a white skin.

Instead of hating them, they should have the pity of all right-thinking people because they are not wholly to blame for their silly opinions.

8-12-44

America has permitted vast segments of its population to become indoctrinated with the idea of racial superiority. Men of little minds, unable to think beyond the morass of hide-bound racial customs, see all around them colored people subjected to segregation and discrimination and believe that Negroes are actually interior.

The Federal, State and Municipal Governments all practice discrimination and segregation in one form or another. The great Christian church of all denominations permits discrimination and segregation. Big business whether in the North or South refuses to employ Negroes on the sole basis of ability. Labor Unions tolerate discrimination except in rare instances.

8-12-44

Under these circumstances it was perfectly easy for bigots to sway the workers to issue a mandate to the United States Government that "Unless it is agreed in writing that Negroes will not be employed as operators we will not work."

Their prejudices against the Negroes were more powerful than their love of country. All appeals to their patriotism failed to penetrate their weak minds. Most of them have relatives in the armed forces whose lives may be lost on account of their behavior. Even this greatest of all human appeals fell on stony ground.

Because America has tolerated racial hatred, condoned and fostered discrimination against Negroes, even in the face of a disastrous and dangerous crisis, tremendous force had to be used to get the Philadelphia transportation system to move.

8-12-44

But sufficient force was used **only** because of the war. Wisdom would seem to dictate that whatever force is necessary whether in peace or war must be used to destroy the copper-headed monster, racial prejudice, which if permitted to continue will destroy our civilization.

The leaders of the strike and those who support them are the products of American customs. Unless that is remembered, a dangerous event which threatened the life of a great city will have taught us nothing.

Danville Strike Ends; Colored Workers Out

Journal & Guide - Norfolk, Va.

6-10-44

DANVILLE, Va. — An orderly but stubborn two-weeks' strike in which the employment of Negroes in certain phases of production of sorely needed war materials was the sole issue, ended at the Riverside Division of the Dan River Cotton Mills here this week with employment discrimination based on race thoroughly entrenched in the plant.

The approximately 3,000 white mill operatives voted to resume work Monday only after the management had announced its intention of abandoning its recently inaugurated policy of hiring Negroes as spinners.

6-10-44

The strike was called on May 22 when about 400 white operators of spinning machines left their frames and benches in protest against the presence of 20 Negro spinning operators recently trained and put to work in a segregated room in the mill.

OTHERS IDLE

6-10-44

Following the walk-out of the white spinners, workers in other departments either left their jobs, in sympathy with the strikers, or were forced to quit work because of the lack of materials supplied from the spinning rooms.

During the strike the production of needed Army and Navy cloth was cut more than 50 per cent, a mill spokesman said.

The strikers were members of the Textile Workers Union, CIO, and Paul Robinson, CIO director handling the situation announced, just prior ot the management's issuance of its placating announcement, stated the union had "exhausted all its knowledge and efforts, and we are not able to see any solution to the present

the advice of the union leadership had been ignored and the race issue being what it was, the leaders practically abandoned hope of settling the affair.

It was reported that one of the most adamant antagonist in the disruption was a spinner who lives in a see tion where the house he rents from a Negro is surrounded by Negro residents. 6-10-44

SEEK TO INJECT FEPC

Incidentally, an effort to inject the situation fell flat in their position, but that since when Joseph D. Herbert, regional director of the War Manpower

Spokesmen for the mill management insisted that the only Negroes employed had been assigned to rooms and shifts in which no white spinners were employed. They denied flatly that southern segregation customs were violated.

The CIO in its membership policy does not discriminate between the races. It was reiterated by the union leaders that they see that they were in errors the FEPC in the situation fell flat

WHITES CONSULTED

The management stated that before hiring Negroes as spinners it had discussed the matter with the white workers who had agreed to the proposal provided the colored workers were segregated in a room away from whites.

Beginning with a few colored operators and assigning them to the single No. 2, room, the company hired more as the first employes were trained. Resentment arose among the whites who preferred the segregated plan and capitated the strike. 6-10-44

Commission, denied that the Fair Employment Practices Committee had ordered employment of Negroes as operatives.

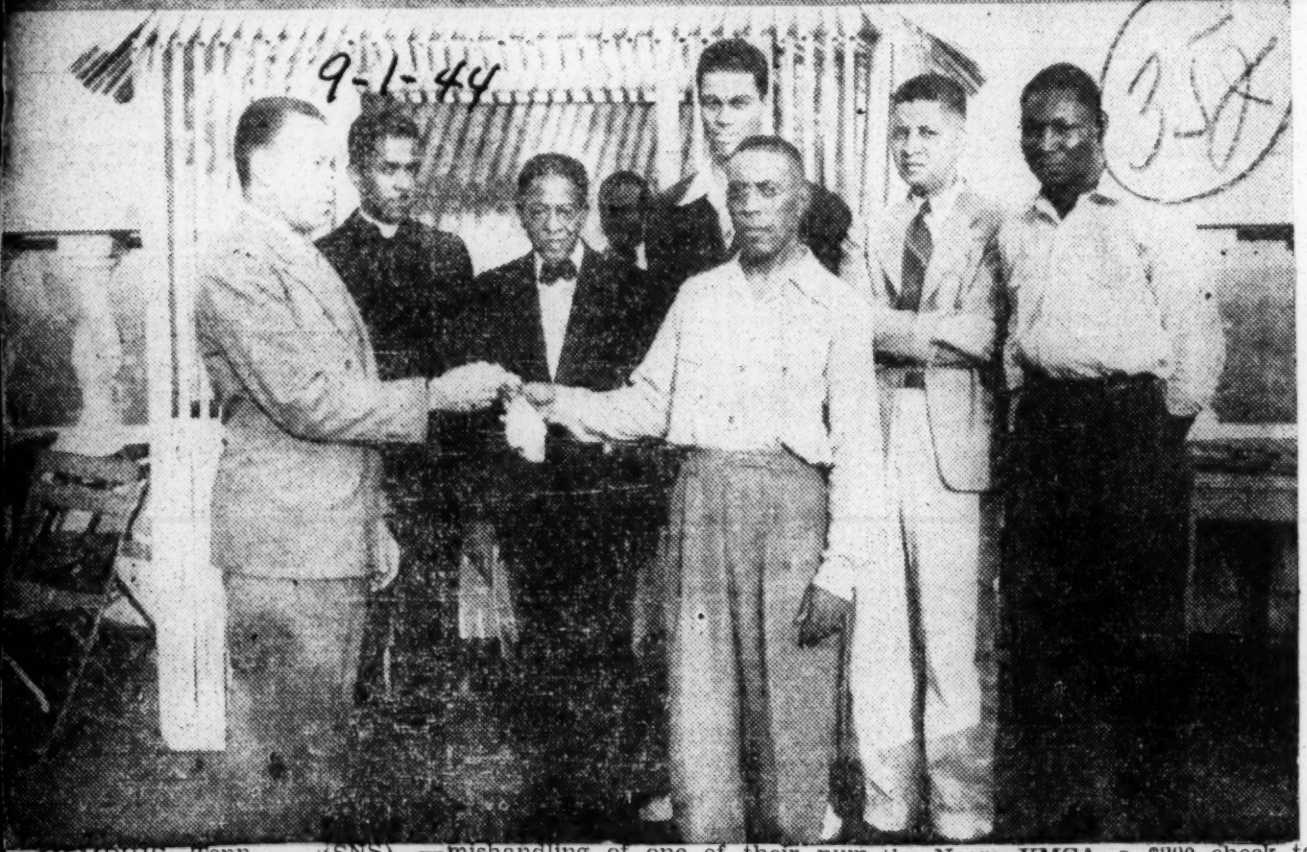
Robinson, the union director, said he had suggested to the mill management that an entire mill be staffed with Negro operatives in order that violation of local segregation custom might be avoided and had promised the cooperation of his union in helping to work out such a plan. The offer was not accepted.

Spokesman for the strikers said they agreed on their part to work on a long-range plan involving the employment of Negro in some capacity.

Claridge Hotel Strikers' Didn't Like Treatment

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 9-1-44

9-1-44



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MEMPHIS, Tenn. — (SNS) — Forty or more waiters, bus men and other workers on the Roof and in the Balinese Room of the Hotel Claridge Hotel Trift Club as they presented to Mr. C. R. Lawrence of the Negro YMCA, a $200 check to furnish a room for service men at the 'Y'. An official of the club is presenting the check.

mishandling of one of their number. The 'top picture shows the majority of the strikers.....bottom picture shows members of the 'Struck' last week in protest over allegedly bad treatment and the

Daily Worker 8-9-44 New York, N.Y.

Charges Firm Spurred Phila. Strike

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 8.—Frank L. MacNamee, regional director of the War Manpower Commission, is prepared to present evidence to Wednesday's federal grand jury, confirming Transport Workers Union charges of company collusion in the "white supremacy" strike which was broken by the Army here Sunday.

8-9-44

MacNamee, one of the government's top ranking officials in this area, also gave added support to charges made yesterday by leading Negroes. Their charges, which created a deep impression here, were that the "white suprmacy" plot was aimed at provoking a major race riot in Philadelphia.

E. Washington Rhodes, Arthur Huff Fauset, Austin Norris, and other leading Negro citizens charged that the proposal of Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of the Philadelphia PTC filed no protest with the FEPC.

"The old union known as the PRT Employes Union, did file a protest and was heard at a congressional hearing. After this the FEPC directive was confirmed.

"This year, at an election held under the auspices of the State Labor Relations Board, the Transport Workers Union superseded the PRT Employes Union as the bargaining agent for the transit employees.

"Thus, when the priority plan forbidding gate hiring, went into effect July 1, there was no formal opposition to the FEPC directive. The company never signified its intention of challenging the directive and the CIO was in favor of upgrading colored employes.

"About a week after the federal referral plan became effective, a notice appeared on PTC bulletin boards saying the company would conform to the War Manpower Commission's committee on industrial relations, to suspend WMC fair hiring rules would have been the signal for a series of bloody Detroit massacres through-out the country.

MacNamee said flatly that Dr. A. A. Mitten, chairman of the Philadelphia Transportation Company committee on industrial relations proposed that President Roosevelt's order on fair employment practice be rescinded as the price of ending the tie-up.

"I am prepared to lay this matter before the grand jury in detail," he said. "The circumstances are well worth investigating."

He outlined them as follows:

OUTLINES CIRCUMSTANCES

"It should be remembered that when the Fair Employment Practices Committee issued its directive last November, requiring equal treatment for colored employees, the Commission's directive, including the FEPC order. This meant that Negroes would be trained as trolley operators.

"The first I knew of the work stoppage was last Tuesday when I was called to a meeting of federal officials and representatives of PTC management in the Mitten Building.

9-9-44

"There Dr. Mitten produced another bulletin which he proposed to issue, and which had the effect of rescinding Presidential Order 93460. He said that if such a bulletin could be posted, the work stoppage would end.

"I told him it was his bulletin board and he could post what he liked, but that the War Manpower Commission had no authority to vacate a presidential order. The bulletin was not posted and the strike continued."

Suggests Concentration Camp for PTC Strikers

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y. 8-12-44

Sir: The 6,000 strikers who faked "sickness" in Philadelphia last week were just as damaging to our war effort as 6,000 saboteurs on the enemy's payroll. They don't deserve sympathy and should be placed in Army concentration camps without trial.

Rather than see eight Negroes get better jobs in the City of Brotherly Love, the "sick strikers" seriously affected the needed production of these vital war materials: radar, heavy artillery, heavy ammunition, military trucks, incendiary bombs, flame throwers.

On top of this, they caused the President, high Government officials, the Army and several other important people connected directly with the war effort to lose valuable time in adjusting the situation.

Even more, they weakened the morale of the Negro by bringing about outbreaks among the citizens which add up to a race riot.

If the people responsible for these conditions don't belong in an Army concentration camp, then we need a new system of justice to place them in concentration. The fine of $5,000 or imprisonment for one year, or both, provided for in the Smith-Connally Act does not seem to fit this case.

8-12-44

Someone said "the punishment should fit the crime." With this I agree, and in the case under discussion a concentration camp will fit the persons responsible for the strike like a glove.

Evangeline Walters.

U. S. Grand Jury Indicts 30 in Phila. Strike

Pm - New York, N.Y. 8-12-44

Special Correspondence

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 5.—Federal Grand Jury investigating the recent transit strike, which followed the upgrading of eight transit workers for violation of the Smith-Connally Act and mildly rebuked the management of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. for failing to take proper action to

avert the walkout.

With a pat on the back to company unions and a slap at the Transport Workers Union, CIO, the jury handed up a contradictory presentment, topping its list of defendants with the four men who were arrested as ringleaders of the strike which ended on its sixth day after the U. S. Army moved in.

Federal Judge Guy K. Bard ordered bail of $500 each for the 30 men but no trial date was set.

10-5-44

In one sentence of the curious 10-page indictment, the Grand Jury found that proper conduct by company executives might have averted the strike; in another, it held that the promotion of Negroes to operating jobs was the fundamental cause of the strike, and, in a third stated that the Negro question played no deep role in the tieup of Philadelphia's war transportation.

Again, the jury placed responsibility for the strike squarely on the company, then shifted responsibility to the Transport Workers Union which opposed the strike from the start and won official Army thanks for its aid in returning the employes to their jobs. 10-5-44

The jury expressed approval of company unions (TWU won a bargaining agent victory over a so-called company union last Spring), which under some circumstances, the jury said, represented the "ideal" in industrial relations.

The jurors also noted with alarm the growth of a strong national labor organization "reaching its tentacles into every community" as subversive of "the life and government of our great republic."

And in indicting the 30 men they declared: 10-5-44

"It is our opinion that all of these individuals are victims of larger forces under the influence of which they have been affected."

The indictments included two counts: Causing the strike and taking part in a strike which "caused interruption of the facilities and interfering with the operation" of PTC. The maximum penalty is a year in prison or $5000 fine or both.

"It seems quite clear that so far as there was flame or fire in the strike, the chief fuel, therefore, came from resentment over the upgrading of Negroes to 'platform' positions such as none of their race had heretofore held," the Grand Jury said.

"The members of this jury wish it to be known that they agree entirely with the viewpoint which holds for this race the right to higher position and wages wherever they so qualify on the same basis as fellow employes of the white race.

"We are pleased, therefore, to express our conviction that the great majority of the employes were not interested to strike on this basis." 10-5-44

After tracing the history of strike back to Dec. 27, 1943, when the Fair Employment Practices Committee ordered PTC to cease discriminating against Negroes, the Grand Jury declared:

"It appears evident that proper planning beforehand on the part of management for such an emergency (as the strike) and quick action by responsible officers would have turned the incipient strike into a forceful display of employe loyalty to their company and to their public duty.

"The jury regrets the failure of PTC to take firm hold on the situation. Their general attitude after the strike began seems best expressed in the weak excuse—'What's the use?'

"Actually on the first day of the strike a prominent official expressed it thus to the head of the War Manpower Commission: 'Its your baby and it's on your lap.'" 10-5-44

Referring to the defeated union (PRT Employes Union) the Grand Jury said:

"The members of the jury are interested to note that country-wide we have made a long step away from the company union which might, with the right motivation on both sides, have seemed the ideal method of relations in our industrial life."

The report closed with a shot naming no one, but which jurors later said was aimed at the TWU:

"We are interested also to raise the question whether our country can safely afford to leave wide open the way for a great organization to develop in the United States a strong central power and government reaching its tentacles into every community in the land and in its principles of action seemingly subversive of the principles first declared and later constituted in this city of Philadelphia as the basis of the life and government of our great republic. 10-5-44

One juror—Mrs. Hugh D. Scott, wife of the Republican Congressman from the swank Germantown-Chestnut Hill district—told reporters:

"It is my honest opinion that the CIO and Government directive (on race equality) were the direct causes of this strike. If the directive had been withdrawn or suspended temporarily after the trouble developed, the strike would have been called off.

"The lower you go in the social scale, the more prejudice there is."

Other jurors said the chief dissension in the jury room was over the CIO, which some wanted to condemn by name and others only by implication. One said the jury felt the CIO was too powerful.

When he charged the jury on Aug. 10, Federal Judge George A. Welsh warned: 10-5-44

"Don't let any man be so high that he wears a protective shield and don't let him be so lowly that he can benefit by concealment. The mere throwing of three or four men to the wolves will not solve this problem. Find out for whom they are acting. Don't be fooled and pin an illegitimate child on the wrong father."

"The Philadelphia Story"

Amsterdam News—New York, N. Y.

The 6000 transit workers in Philadelphia who struck last week in protest against the upgrading of Negroes to motormen on the trolley lines undertook an impossible task. It is regrettable that the press of the city hadn't been more active in conditioning the population of the "City of Brotherly Love" for the inevitable. And since it failed to do so in the past the press could still do the city and the nation a distinct service by driving home the point to the leaders of the strike, and the strikers as well that they cannot win. 8-12-44

Obviously, the struggle in Philadelphia is not merely one in which a group of white men are attempting to prevent Negroes from getting better job opportunities. If it were as simple as that they might have won. Rather the struggle was one in which a group of men were up against the tremendous and unrelenting forces of human right and decency which no man can halt indefinitely.

We did not view with any great alarm the defiance of the Government by the strike leaders. For we saw in that defiance a desperation which is so common among leaders when they realize their cause is lost.

Yet it is said that in the midst of a global war to preserve our Democracy and to make secure jobs for all men, that one group of Americans would not only act in a manner to retard victory in tha war, but also to invalidate that victory by actually opposing the efforts of other Americans to acquire jobs all of us are fighting to protect. 8-12-44

But as the mills of the Gods grind exceeding fine, the ultimate victory of right over evil is certain. The strike leaders have helped hasten the new day in Philadelphia, by selecting the present time to call a showdown. The war and its necessities and the vast world opinion against discrimination on account of race, creed and color, combine to make inevitable the rseults of the "Battle of Philadelphia." In the end, the prejudiced strikers, because they were wrong, lost.

One Slain, 2 Injured, 365 Jailed In Philly

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y.

Transportation Tieup Toll Includes White Man Being Beaten to Death; Riot Quelled

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT 8-12-44

(Amsterdam News Press Service)

PHILADELPHIA—Last week's street violence, a result of the Philadelphia Transportation Company's strike involving more than 6,000 men and women, ended in a white man being killed, a 13-year-old Negro being shot and critically wounded, another youth, 21, shot and 365 young Negro men and women being arrested.

Police here admitted as much Sunday but were reluctant to go into details.

A crowd marched on the store afterward and smashed the windows before police arrived on the scene.

The Amsterdam News learned, though, that Charles Seltchick, 34-year-old soft drink bottling establishment owner, died 24 hours after engaging in a fist fight with an employee, Hershel Sims, 28, of Bainbridge St., in South Philadelphia.

Franklin Howard, 13, of 2236 Master St., was struck in the chest by a bullet fired from a passing automobile as Howard and other youths stood on a street-corner.

Significantly, few arrests of white persons involved in street-fighting Sims was held without bail when were reported. Police said that was he surrendered to police after learning that Seltchick was dead. He admitted striking his boss during an argument at the plant on the first day of the strike.

due to the fact that "these white fellows always manage to get away before we get there."

Civic leaders blamed that on the indifference of Mayor Bernard Samuel and Police Department officials, however, and hinted that one of the reasons for the current racial disorder could be directly attributed to prejudiced cops

8-12-44

Irwin Odrick, of Columbia Ave. in North Philadelphia, was shot and seriously wounded by a white storekeeper, Morris Miller, when the latter was allegedly held up by Odrick and four other youths.

35k-1944

See Freedom For Negro In Memphis Labor Units

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

4-29-44

(Editor's Note—The Defender has been getting disturbing reports about the sinister attempts of pre-Crump, anti-democratic elements to deprive the Negro of his new rights in the new Southern trade union movement. We asked our Southern white staff correspondent and columnist, Harold Preece, who is also a veteran labor journalist, to check these reports. We believe that the following report of what is going on in the Tennessee trade unions show that Negroes must increasingly join those unions, and must increasingly make their influence felt in Tennessee labor if the South and the nation are to be rid of the Crump machine. This is the third of a series of three articles by Mr. Preece on conditions in Memphis and Tennessee, the other two having been published in preceding issues of the Defender.)

By HAROLD PREECE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

MEMPHIS, Tenn.—Memphis Boss Ed Crump's Tennessee political machine is starting to crack because Tennessee Negroes are beginning to blast it with a weapon that has the sharpness of a new axe—organized trade unionism.

The Crump machine suffered a big crack three weeks ago when Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters' International President A. Philip Randolph came back to Memphis and made a public address before 2000 people gathered in the First Baptist church of courageous Pastor G. A. Long.

4-29-44

That was a fitting sequel to the disgraceful chapter written in Memphis, last November, when Crump's black straw bosses of the Hernando Street "aristocracy" joined hands with their "old massa" to keep Randolph from exercising his constitutional rights to be heard.

On April 8—one week ago today—I saw evidence of more cracks being made by Negroes using that hard-slashing, brand-new weapon of trade unionism. I saw, and talked with, some 20 Negro delegates from CIO unions in Memphis, Chattanooga, Nashville, and Knoxville, when I attended a statewide labor political action convention of Tennessee labor organizations held here in Nashville.

One Negro delegate after the other told me of how his union was undertaking the organization of political action committees to qualify Negroes as voters in Boss Crump's poll tax empire. When one of the convention's main speakers, Vice-Chairman Vann A. Bittner, of the National CIO Political Action Committee, praised the Supreme Court for its act in outlawing the Dixie

N.Y. High Court Hits Racial Bans In Union

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

7-29-44

NEW YORK—The New York State Court of Appeals this week upheld the state's anti-racial discrimination law and ordered the Railway Mail Association to open its doors to Negro members. The Railway Mail Clerks brought suit against the State Industrial Commissioner and Attorney-General Nathaniel Goldstein to enjoin them from enforcing the state civil rights law which provides, in substance, that no labor organization shall deny a person membership in its organization by reason of his race, color or creed.

In November, the Supreme Court in Albany County decided against Attorney-General Goldstein. On appeal, the Appellate Division reversed the lower court and upheld the Attorney-General's contention. Today the Court of Appeals unanimously affirmed the Attorney-General Goldstein's stand.

Attorney-General Goldstein said: "What was practically involved in this case was the power of the state to forbid a labor organization composed of employees of a Federal department from refusing membership to qualified applicants because of their race, color or creed. The attack upon this law was based upon constitutional ground. It was a challenge to the entire effectiveness of anti-racial discrimination laws in the state and this decision is of major importance to all persons, irrespective of race, color or creed, interested in upholding the guarantees of civil rights."

7-29-44

CIO Fights Hotel Ban

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—Criminal prosecution of a hotel manager who denied accommodations to Negroes was an upshot of the Michigan CIO convention last week.

In the face of the Hotel Cody's refusal to lodge four Negro delegates from Bohn Aluminum, Local 208 of the CIO United Auto Workers, Detroit, the convention took swift action to prosecute the manager, W. Blake, and to bring the matter to the attention of the UAW executive board. The international's annual convention is scheduled to take place here in September.

Although the hotel had assured the CIO in writing that there would be no discrimination, when Hodges Mason, Frank McDonald, Rebecca Norris and John Reynolds requested rooms, they were told that the Cody did not cater to Negroes.

Hits Plane Plant Prejudice

ATLANTA—(ANP) — Predicting that more and more skilled jobs at the huge Bell bomber plant here will be filled by qualified Negroes since hundreds of skilled jobs are open there and white persons are not available, A. Bruce Hunt, director, southeastern region, FEPC, Tuesday urged CIO union shop stewards and officers to "cast away your prejudices in favor of the interests of your nation and your union."

7-29-44

With the aid of several thousand votes from Negro workers at the Bell plant, which builds the massive B-29 bomber, the United Auto Workers last spring won exclusive bargaining rights at the plant in a close election over the AFL International Machinists union.

"Perhaps some of you at first would be inclined to oppose the hiring or upgrading of Negroes to skilled jobs at Bell," Mr. Hunt asserted. "Some of you may object to closer association at work with Negroes. It should be clear, however, that the present need for war production, and the strength and morale of your nation today, as well as in times of peace, transcend in importance the feelings you have."

Pullman Porters Join CUA

C. E. Kendricks, of New York, national president of the Pullman Porters union of America, was nominated to the executive board of the Confederated Unions of America this week when his organization was granted a charter as an affiliated union of the national body of hitherto independent unions who have scorned AFL and CIO affiliation.

7-29-44

The Pullman porters, the 76th union to be granted membership representation of more than 475,000 workers, is said to be the first Negro labor union to be admitted to affiliation and will be granted jurisdictional control of certain railroad employees and allied crafts, according to Matthew Smith, president of CUA.

"Land of The Noble Free"

New York Age
N. Y. C.

THE highlight of the 28th annual convention of the American Federation of Teachers in Chicago, August 14th to 18th, was not progressive policies on taxation and post war economy, nor the splendid reports of the national officers showing continued growth of the organization, nor even the many stimulating addresses, but the voice of the liberal, thinking South raised in behalf of the adoption of truly democratic employment practices for all minorities, especially the Negro.

In the heated argument following the introduction of a resolution supporting HR 3986 for a permanent FEPC, the voice of traditional labor was there in opposition to many of labor's difficulties in our legislative bodies will be wiped out.

The crux of the argument on FEPC was whether labor wanted government to have anything to say about union membership. Labor fears any control in that respect may lead to

regulation in many other aspects of its organization. There would be a point in this argument if labor had not specifically asked for governmental regulation of its right to organize in the Wagner Labor Relations Act. If labor accepts governmental activity in one aspect, its best safeguard against interference in any other is to remove any cause which may give the government an occasion to interfere.

Labor voluntarily gave up one of its most basic rights when it agreed to the no-strike pledge during this war emergency. Again, July 1st, it accepted without protest, Mr. McNutt's regulations, which put into effect very stringent control of labor by government. Strange that it's only against the prevention of discrimination in its ranks that labor becomes alarmed. As long as labor insists on having closed shop contracts which give labor the right to control a man's job, labor must practice equality of treatment for all workers. I would prefer that unions voluntarily give up every practice which injures them in public opinion, but until labor sets its house in order it cannot justly expect to be exempted from restrictions imposed on others. Our people within labor unions must carry on a program of education to win over labor to our point of view otherwise, labor's opposition may prevent the passage of legislation to make FEPC permanent.

The argument on the enforcement of the 14th amendment would convince anyone that the anti-poll tax bill does not get at the heart of the suffrage question at all. Southern delegates who previously voted for endorsement of the anti-poll tax bill were vehement in their oppsition to any endorsement of enforcement of the 14th amendment for they recognized fully how the power of the South would be limited. Negroes then must not be led off into accepting half-way measures in place of their constitutional rights.

So great has the war propaganda and the war spirit dominated even liberal thinking, that the convention delegates were unwilling to reaffirm their previous opposition to compulsory military training. Not only does such training go counter to all democratic education, but it places a tremendous financial burden on any government, which means automatically a reduction of funds for social services as health, education, libraries, etc. In addition conscript armies have been used to break strikes and intimidate labor. Their very existence is a threat to a free labor movement. For minorities they are an even greater threat for the segregated pattern of war time is not likely to be broken. As a consequence the full weight of the national government will be back of a segregated program for the very generation we could reasonably hope would make some improvement in race relations.

Compulsory military service is apart of a war system which organized labor recognizes as a danger. In its post war program the AFR states: "War is the enemy. The American Federation of Labor believes that war among the nations waged by the modern engines of death and destruction is the supreme enemy of the well-being of the common people of the world. We consider that the elimination of war as an instrument of national policy is a condition essential to the perpetuation and the further development of our democratic way of life."

In this respect labor is 100 per cent right. Teachers recognized this by endorsing a report of their International Relations Committee calling upon Congress to initiate steps for an international association among nations to cooperate in maintaining peace.

An AFT convention is always stimulating and instructive. More of our own people should be there.

Negro Workers Losers In Step Of Pullman Co.

Atlanta Daily World

Porters' Union Contract May Become Void

Atlanta, Ga.

11-23-44

WASHINGTON, D. C. — (ANP) —Buried deep in a financial page story of the New York Times last week, concerning earnings of the Pullman Company, Inc., was an item of tremendous significance to Negroes and labor. It referred to the plan of separation submitted by the Pullman Co., filed in the Federal District Court at Philadelphia on Oct. 2, and to a proposal of the Pennsylvania Railroad to own and operate its own sleeping car service, and the possible adoption of such a plan by a regional group of railroads.

The significance lies in the fact that the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, the largest union of Negro workers, headed by A. Philip Randolph, has its contract with the Pullman Co. Only one union of Negro workers has a direct contract with the Railroads — the Joint Council of Dining Car Waiters. All other bargaining with the railroads is done by the Brotherhoods, which to a large extent, exclude Negroes from membership.

Much may depend on the outcome of the cases argued last week before the Supreme Court by Attorney Charles H. Houston, in which the designation of a railroad Brotherhood as the representative of the entire craft and class of workers attached in view of the discriminatory exclusion of Negroes and the efforts of the Brotherhood of Railroad Enginemen and Firemen to ease Negroes out of their jobs.

Efforts to reach Randolph for comments were unsuccessful.

AFL To Keep Dual Unions

Courier

Pittsburgh, Pa.

NEW ORLEANS, La.—Although the American Federation of Labor meeting here in its 64th annual session last week adopted a resolution calling for an investigation of discrimination in the U. S. armed forces, it rejected after a bitter fight a proposal introduced by A. Philip Randolph and Milton Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters that the principle of dual unionism with jim crow auxiliaries within the AFL be condemned.

Specifically accusing the Boilermakers, Machinists and Electrical Workers unions of using their Negro auxiliaries to deny Negroes the right to vote in conventions, help negotiate contracts or to aid in governing the organization, Randolph exclaimed:

TRADE UNION FACISM

"This is trade union imperialism. It is a form of dual membership under which first class privileges are given to white workers and second class membership to Negroes under AFL sanction. This is trade union fascism and its continuation is as dangerous to a democratic trade union movement as political fascism is to a democratic government . . . Those unions should either toe the line or get out of the AFL."

Randolph's address was attacked by Charles J. MacGowan, president of the Boilermakers, and Lev Loring, president of the Tennessee Federation of Labor, but Israel Zimmerman of the Sayre, Pa. Central Trades Council, rose to Randolph's defense.

"WE WON'T WAIT"

The militant Negro labor leader told MacGowan: "If anyone thinks that Negroes are going to wait a thousand years to get their rights, they have another thought coming. Get as mad as you like, but Negroes are going to fight for their rights no matter how mad you get."

Among the liberal resolutions which the convention adopted were the demand for the investigation of discrimination in the armed forces, free and democratic labor movements in all countries, and the support of the four freedoms.

PERMANENT FEPC

In endorsing a permanent FEPC the convention resolution read: "In the interest of justice and fair play for all workers without regard to race, color, religion or national origin, the eradication of discrimination has proven to be possible only through the establishment of appropriate legislation, or regulation through the Federal government."

Included in committee recommendations were the extension of veterans' benefits to men over 25, Federal aid to equalize educational opportunities in all States, and the placing of vocational schools on the same basis with academic schools.

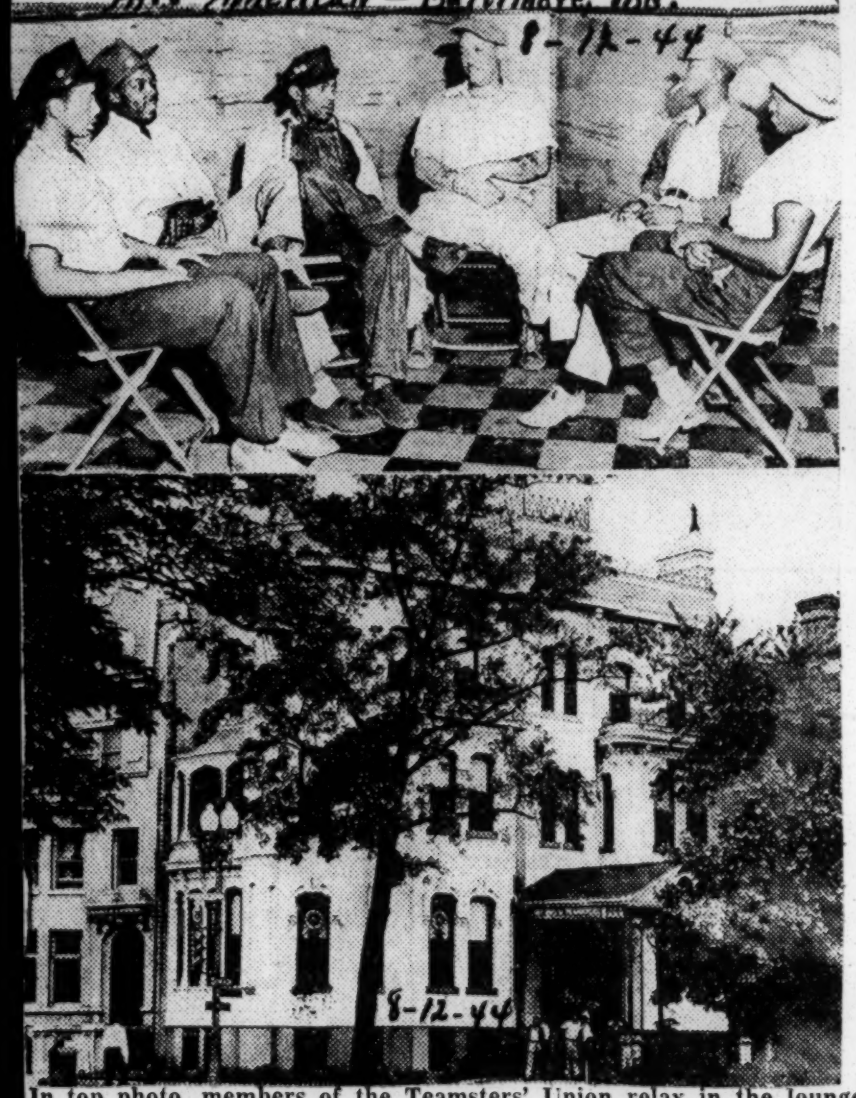
POLL TAX OPPOSED

Other resolutions adopted included a plan to organize women workers in the various AFL unions and to seek legislation providing equal pay for equal work for women; a 30-hour week when peace comes; the exemption of small annuities from the income tax, the condemnation of the poll tax as undemocratic, un-American and unjust, and the adoption of a broad program of social inusrance.

35k-1944

Headquarters of Teamsters' Union

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-12-44



In top photo, members of the Teamsters' Union relax in the lounge room of their headquarters, where they are waiting to be dispatched to their next job. Lower photo shows exterior view of the spacious building occupied by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Drivers, Chauffeurs and Helpers, Local 639, at 1500 Thirteenth Street, Northwest, Washington.

Democratic Teamsters' Union Has 800 Members

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-12-44

WASHINGTON

The International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stablemen and Helpers at 1500 Thirteenth Street, Northwest, has about 800 colored members, A. W. Stream, white, president of the local, revealed to the AFRO this week.

Three are members of the executive board. Paid officials, they are Emmett Sachry, Samuel Welch and Mose Brown.

Organized in Washington in 1934 as local 639 of the AFL, the brotherhood has a total membership of 1700 colored and white members.

There are eight other similar locals of the same union in the city with a combined membership of 7,000 men, Mr. Stream said.

The union membership embraces all men who work on delivery trucks except route salesmen, such as milk men and drivers of bread trucks.

8-12-44

Mr. Stream said that government employees are eligible for membership but very few belong, because they can only receive pay raises through an act of Congress.

Mr. Stream said that any time 50 per cent of the employees of a firm join the union, the brotherhood can, under the Wagner Act proceed to negotiate a contract with the employing firm.

He said that the brotherhood had negotiated some eighty contracts in the Washington area embracing a radius of 60 miles from the city and said that union membership entitled the union members to work at any firm in any city holding a contract with the brotherhood.

William Hicks, 54 Patterson Street, Northeast, a member for fifteen years now employed as a janitor at the brotherhood headquarters, describes it as the best job he ever had. 8-12-44

Mr. Stream said that the union was first organized many years ago when horses were the principal means of transportation and that the entire name is retained for sentimental and historical reasons.

Lose Effort To Bar Race

Call — Kansas City, Mo.

Rules Railway Mail Group Is A Labor Union

NEW YORK. — The New York State Court of Appeals ruled on Wednesday, July 19 that the Railway Mail association, a national organization of railway postal clerks, is a labor union and had violated New York State's civil rights laws in barring Negroes from membership.

7-28-44

The National Organization of Railway Mail Clerks brought suit against the State industrial commissioner and Attorney-General Goldstein to enjoin them from enforcing section 43 of the civil rights law of the state of New York, which provides, in substance, that no labor organization shall deny a person membership in its organization by reason of race, color or creed. The national organization alleged that this law was an unconstitutional interference with the federal mail service and made various other allegations.

In November of last year, the supreme court in Albany county decided against Attorney General Goldstein. On appeal, the appelate division reversed the lower court and upheld the Attorney-General's contention. Wednesday the court of appeals unanimously affirmed Attorney-General Goldstein's stand.

7-28-44

The NAACP, acting as amicus curiae, presented a brief January 6, 1944, in which it contended that the argument that the Railway Mail Association is a membership insurance corporation and not a labor union was only a screen to attempt to evade the provisions of the civil rights law.

Charge Camel cigarette co. union with framing Negro

Tribune — Los Angeles, Calif.
9-18-44

PHILADELPHIA — A nation-wide campaign to protest the alleged frameup of William DeBerry, young Negro CIO organizer of the R. J. Reynolds plant in Winston-Salem, N.C., makers of Camel cigarettes, has begun with a call to members and friends of organized labor to lend their support. Charged with assaulting a white woman, Louise Johnson, asserted company-union stooge, DeBerry was sentenced to 60 days on the road.

"This is not primarily a race issue, but an attempt to smash a successfully growing union by provoking race riot and disruption," stated Donald Henderson, president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America (CIO), which organized the Reynolds plant and is leading the fight. 9-18-44

Coming after the long and successful fight of UCAPAWA to organize the Reynolds open shop, the DeBerry case is called an obvious anti-CIO move by the leaders of the discredited company union. It follows a year-long history of efforts by the Company to stir up race prejudice in the community, to organize public opinion against the CIO and to stymie the organization by use of court injunctions," the Union claims.

Reynolds workers, recently chartered as Local 22, UCAPAWA-CIO, last December voted CIO into the plant by 6,000 to 3,000. The first collective bargaining agreement has been negotiated, and the workers are awaiting the War Labor Board decision on wage increases and union security.

"This case is an insult, not only to the labor movement, but a disgrace to the city of Winston-Salem and the entire South," Henderson said.

Resignation Of Ferdinand Smith, Regrettable Incident

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.
NMU Secretary, 11-25-44

THE resignation of Ferdinand Smith as the National Secretary of the National Maritime Union, CIO, comes as a surprise and a shock to those who realize that he was among the foremost leaders of the labor movement in America.

The N. M. U. stands heads and shoulders above most labor organizations in its advocacy of the equality of men. It not only advocated racial equality, it went to bat and fought for it.

Since its beginning in 1936 Ferdinand Smith has been second only to its President, Joseph Curran.

The reason given for Mr. Smith's resignation is that he is not a citizen of the United States. We assume that that is true.

It is to be regretted that because of Constitutional provisions Mr. Smith found it necessary to resign.

The union it is hoped will select another colored man

Los Angeles AFL Transit Union Lowers Discrimination Bars

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.
8-23-44

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 1. — The major bus, street and subway lines tracts with many of the country's FEPC victory against the Los adheres strictly to a policy of non-Angeles Railway Co. has broken discrimination.

down race bars in the AFL's Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes.

D. D. McClurg, president of the Amalgamated local here, announced yesterday that the union had decided to admit Negroes. The action came after much discussion and education on the problem during the months since the issue arose. The events at Philadelphia where company union leaders called an anti-Negro strike, undoubtedly contributed to breaking down anti-Negro bars. The CIO's Transport Workers Union, holding con-

to act as secretary while Mr. Smith goes about the job of becoming a citizen of the United States.

We suggest a colored secretary because it gives point to the position which the United Maritime Union has always taken on the color question.

Cornerstone of CIO

N.Y.N.Y. The People's Voice, N.Y.

WHEN A GREAT CONVENTION of 600 elected representatives of 6,000,000 organized workers unanimously declares, with genuine enthusiasm, that the wartime employment gains of Negro workers "must not be lost in the post-war period," that programs must be undertaken to prevent employers from taking "any steps which are designed to return to previous conditions of discrimination and thereby reduce the gains that all workers have won"—that is an event of profound historic significance.

When the President of that great labor organization gets prolonged applause for his fervent statement that "the successful outcome of this present war must eliminate for all time the issue of discrimination because of race, creed or color," that all forms of "discrimination against Negroes and religious bigotry" must be completely destroyed, and that "national unity cannot be achieved in the face of any such vile practice"—that is an event which should endow us all with real confidence in the coming triumph of our struggles for a truly democratic America.

12-2-44

These and other progressive actions and declarations by last week's CIO Convention in Chicago come on top of a long record of CIO struggles—and victories—in the fight for Negro democratic rights. They remind us, once again, that this young and growing and thoroughly democratic organization is, by all odds, the most powerful friend and ally of the Negro people.

We shall watch with deep concern this second week's deliberations of the AFL Convention in New Orleans. We sincerely hope that A. Philip Randolph will not find it necessary again to repeat, absolutely alone, his perennial single-handed and fruitless crusade against jimcroism within the ranks of AFL. We trust that CIO example and the crying needs of this period have taught AFL leaders something about the tremendous stakes which the entire labor movement and the country as a whole have in the destruction of the jimcro cancer which eats away at the very foundations of American democracy. We shall see.

12-2-44

Meanwhile, we rejoice at the renewed and convincing demonstration which the CIO has just given of its determination to keep on fighting for the full democratic rights of Negroes and all other Americans.

A speaker at last week's Chicago convention declared that its policy against jimcro is the very "cornerstone of CIO." He was wrong. The policy of consistent struggle against jimcroism is nothing less than the necessary cornerstone of our entire developing American democracy. The CIO is that instrument of democracy which, more than any other, now serves to make that cornerstone secure.

Randolph Outlines 7-Point Program To Abolish Discrimination, At The Workers Defense League Convention

Age — New York, N.Y.

12-28-44

In an address opening the Workers Defense League's national convention, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, outlined a seven-point program for the abolition of jim crow, designed to give Negroes the social, political and economic equality they seek.

Introduced by WDL chairman Rev. Aaron S. Gilmartin, as "a great American," Mr. Randolph proposed (1) The abolition of jim crow in the armed forces. (2) enforcement of the 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution; (3) enactment of the LaFolette-Dawson Bill in the House and Capper-Wagner-Chavez Bill in the Senate for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission; (4) a Federal aid to education law to insure equality of educational opportunity for Negro and white youth in the South; (5) a National Commission on Race to plan to prevent race riots in the post-war period; (6) Negro representation at the peace table (7) Freedom for Africa.

12-23-44

"Negroes will redouble their war against Jim Crow everywhere in the schools, Army, trade unions, the Government, the worst offender of all the Church, YM and YWCA's," Mr. Randolph declared. "Negroes seek equality, economic, political, social and ethnic. The fight against anti-Negroism, anti-laborism, anti-Semitism, and anti-Catholicism is the fight against fascism nazism It's the fight for democracy, freedom and the good life."

Cooperative Commonwealth

Mr. Randolph called for an American Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, a political agency comparable to the Canadian Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, for the purpose of achieving full employment, peace and plenty. He emphasized that the war and the postwar conscription tend to make more acute the problem of Jim Crow, rather than offer a solution.

"Our future society must provide opportunity for all the people to live and work cooperatively in an environment of democratic equality and fellowship," the labor leader asserted, "an opportunity to participate fully and freely in the development of this society; to express their individual personalities and initiative in accordance with their talents and aspirations to live in houses and communities endowed with the best that modern science and modern art can contribute; to have enough of the right kinds of food, according to the standards established by modern nutrition; to receive education organized for young and old in accordance with the most advanced conceptions of democratic citizenship; and to enjoy leisure free from fear in an environment of beauty, pleasure and culture."

12-28-44

Supports Permanent FEPC

James B. Carey, CIO secretary-treasurer, thanked the WDL for its work in behalf of labor's rights, and declared, "The National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, as the Workers Defense League, wants to get a job accomplished. We will get the FEPC bill enacted. We will get the Wagner-Dingel bill enacted. We will see to it that America gets economic planning, that we get by 1946 sixty million well paid, well informed workers. If we gear our economy to full employment, we can eliminate discrimination."

12-23-44

Nathaniel M. Minkoff, chairman of WDL Committee on Discrimination, who is secretary-treasurer of the N. Y. Dress Joint Board, ILGWU-AFL, urged the importance of labor fighting discrimination in housing as well as in employment. The WDL Convention adopted resolutions calling for passage of the permanent FEPC bill without

Outlines Program

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH

12-23-44

amendment as to coverage or enforcement powers; for poll tax repeal; for the right of civil service employes to organize and strike, and oppossing segregation of Negroes in the Armed Services, opposing passage of postwar conscription bills during war time.

CIO And AFL Face Tests

St. Louis Argus

St. Louis, Mo.

CHICAGO, Nov. 28—(Special)—Both the CIO and the AFL unions considered strong anti-discrimination measures at their respective conventions in Chicago and New Orleans.

12-1-44

An anti-discrimination resolution recommended that CIO unions seek to incorporate in future collective bargaining agreements the provision that no person seeking employment shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, color or place of origin. The resolution also called for the end of Jim Crow, the poll tax, and "any other form of discrimination or bigotry." It praised FEPC and demanded that it be made permanent by Congress.

The removal of Gerard Reilly as a member of the National Labor Relations Board was demanded in another resolution.

Five resolutions on race equality were submitted to the AFL Resolutions Committee by A. Philip Randolph and M. P. Webster, both of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. A sixth was offered by Frank Martel of Detroit. The resolutions will have to be considered by the delegates. They are as follows:

AFL investigation into charges of discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces.

12-1-44

Condemnation by the AFL of auxiliary unions for discrimination against Negroes and demanding their abolition by national and international unions which have such auxiliaries.

Enforcement by the Justice Dept. of the U. S. Supreme Court decision outlawing white primaries.

12-1-44

Enactment by Congress of the long-deferred anti-lynch law.

Indorsement of the work of the FEPC and of pending legislation to make the agency permanent.

Condemnation of the master race doctrine as mythical, unsound, unscientific and a menace to peace and the democratic way of life."

Shipbuilders Elect Negro

Northwest Herald

Seattle, Wash.

12-14-44

Richard Carter, Negro delegate to the tenth national convention of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America, CIO, held in Atlantic City last week, was re-elected for his third successive term as a member of the national executive board by the overwhelming acclamation of the 725 delegates present. The convention also went on record demanding a permanent FEPC. Of the 725 delegates to the convention, approximately 80 were Negroes, coming from locals in industrial centers such as Mobile, Louisville, Baltimore and San Pedro. Mr. Carter, in addition to his three terms on the national executive board of the union, has been president of his local union in Bay City, Mich., and is chairman of the Michigan CIO Fair Labor Practices Committee.

35k-1944

Editor Writes of "Race Employment"

Northwest Herald-Seattle, 3-22-44 ansh.

NEW YORK—William Hard of the editorial staff of Reader's Digest contributes an article to the March issue of that magazine, in which he states: "Many employers and some unions still discriminate against Negroes, yet white and blacks can work together. Most unions realize this and although some openly and officially discriminate against Negroes, 170 do not. Many, such as the Painters and Hodcarriers, both AFL, have been very zealous in organizing Negroes. Two other AFL unions, the Bricklayers and the Operative Plasterers, promise in their constitutions to fine any member 100 if he refuses to work alongside another member because of race. Some unions running fgrom the Hodcarriers to the Teachers, AFL, have Negro national vice presidents, while all CIO unions are committed to a fight to the finish against race discrimination in CIO jobs and have two Negroes on their executive board.

On the question of Negro productivity, Hard says, "Fortune Magazine conducted a poll among 102 important industrial firms as to their experience with Negro employes. Only 12 of these said that Negroes were inferior to whites in productivity, 85 said they were equal; and five, that they were superior. 3-22-44

Ratio of Negro Employment High at Sun Ship

CHESTER, Pa.—A striking experiment in Negro employment has been made by the Sun Shipbuilding Company here. Sun has four building and launching yards. In three of them whites and Negroes work together. In the fourth the working force is almost wholly Negro and under the snpervision of Dr. Emmett J. Scott, a distinguished and respected Negro educator, assisted by "Brud Holland, former Negro All-American football star at Cornell. Eight thousand Negroes are employed in Yard Four, and 4,000 in the other three yards, with some 6,000 of these acting as welders, machinists, drivers, lathe and drill press operators, draftsmen, "leaders," or sub-foremen. 3-22-44

Negro Joins Oil Firm

NEW YORK—Esso Marketers Company officials recently announced that Walter N. Pettifird, a Negro of New York had been appointed an assistant to James A. Jackson, special representative of Esso Marketers. He will aid Mr. Jackson in sales work which covers Esso Marketers' territory in 18 eastern states and the District of Columbia.

Forty-year-old Mr. Pettiford was formerly assistant manager of the Personal Finance Company in New York. He attended Central High School, Philadelphia, Pa., and the Wharton School of Finance of the University of Pennsylvonia. Later he studied advertising and marketing at New York University and in special courses conducted by the New York Times. During the past 20 years, he has done sales promotion, marketing and merchandising work for several firms. 3-22-44

Mr. Pettiford is now secretary of the Parent-Teachers Association of the Modern School, New York and a member of the financial committee of the Harlem Y. M. C. A. He is married and has a six year old daughter.

Negro Union Wins Railway Bargain Right

People's Voice-N.Y., N.Y. 4-1-44

MEMPHIS—The International Association of Railway Employes has acquired collective bargaining rights for hundreds of Negro firemen on the Gulf Coast railroad, it was announced Wednesday by Arthur Lewis president of the union, one of the few labor organizations in America controlled and operated by Negro unionists.

Negotiations which began last Aug. 24 in behalf of the Negro locomotive firemen of the Gulf Coast lines, a subsidiary of the Missouri Pacific system, were terminated March 22, Lewis disclosed. The bargaining rights cover firemen on the New Orleans, Texas and Mexico railroad, Salt Lake and Western, the Beaumont, and the New Iberia and Northern.

WAGE INCREASES

The new agreement was signed by B. W. Proctor, asistant personnel manager of the Missouri Pacific at Houston and Mr. Lewis, of the union. Arrangements have already been made to apply for recent national wage increases which are retroactive to April 1, 1943.

The international maintains legal headquarters in Washington, D.C., under direction of Charles H. Houston, chief legal counsel. Other offices are maintained at Memphis and St. Louis.

Novelist Says Unions Point The Way For Complete Equality

Age-New York, N.Y. 5-6-44

CHICAGO, Ill.—If Benjamin Appel noted writer and novelist, were a Negro, he'd join forces with unions and "other progressive groups which are acting, not talking, but acting on the belief that the rights of all men must be asserted on an hour-to-hour basis." Not only that, but being a Negro, he'd also fight to become "wholly free."

Writing in the April issue in the "If I Were A Negro" series of NEGRO DIGEST published here, Appel, author of "The Dark Stain," asserts that in wartime and later in peace time, he would do his best as an individual to become wholly free. "I would join hands with all men who also wanted me to be wholly free, Negro and white, and I would work for this wholeness, this rightness, three free-ness, not on SUNDAYS ALONE, but on every day in the week." 5-6-44

Admitting that human beings become tired, discouraged, synical, disillusioned, hopeless, Appel nevertheless insists that the fight for full citizenship for Negroes is a continuing one...and represents a big order. "The Negro men whom I have met and whom I respect, a coal miner in Birmingham, other union men whom I've bumped into in various industrial plants, as well as the intellectuals, teachers, writers, are doing what they can to translate the big order into actuality.

"God knows, the country is full of Negro-haters, not to mention the Jew-haters, the union-haters and all the other squirmy bigots, fanatics and anti-democrats, plus confused folk, plus the folk who have forgotten to think straight. They pile up into a lot of people. 5-6-44

"And so what? A man's duties are always clear in every age, in every time. Black or white, we all know what being a man means. In this year, 1944, all of us know that fascism is not Democracy and jim crowism is not Democracy. Both must go. Democracy must come. The future isn't worth a damn if it isn't democratic."

Negroes In Union Pay Double Rates For Insurance

World-Memphis, 6-20-44

PROVIDENCE, R. I. — (SNS) — Negro members of the jim crow auxiliary of the Boilermakers union pay twice as much for insurance as the white members of the regular locals, it was testified here June 14 by William Buckley, international vice president of the union.

Buckley's testimony came at the close of a four-week hearing in superior court before Judge Patrick P. Curran, on a suit to secure a permanent injunction against auxiliary unions in this state. Negro workers at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyards here brought the suit after their ballots were thrown out in a union election last December. In January they secured a temporary injunction issued by Judge Alexander Churchill.

The colored workers are represented by Thurgood Marshall, NAACP Special Counsel, and Joseph Le Count of this city. Counsel for both sides, will file briefs with the the courts June 21 and at that time will decide whether closing arguments will be made. 6-22-44

No Jim Crow At UAW Meet

Comite-Lapeyrouse, Mo. 9-23-44

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich.—The United Auto Workers, CIO, in its ninth annual session here last week faced the Negro question squarely in a number of resolutions submitted by the various locals and in the opening address of Mayor Joseph Welch, who assured the delegates they would find no discrimination in Grand Rapids.

Despite rumors circulated prior to the convention that certain hotels and taverns would discriminate against Negroes the delegates found all hotels housing white and colored, and all restaurants manifesting a non-discriminatory attitude.

Among the resolutions submitted during the convention were the following directly concerning the Negro: That the Army remove all discrimination against Negroes; that an additional office be created on the UAW board to be filled by a Negro; repeal of the poll tax; the establishment of a permanent FEPC, and the enforcement by the Department of Justice of the Supreme court decision permitting Negroes to vote in the Southern Democratic primaries.

THOMAS STRESSES SOLIDARITY

President R. J. Thomas, delivering the keynote address, stressed the necessity of keeping the ranks of the UAW-CIO solid and closed, saying: "This great organization is now faced with the greatest crisis of its history. There is considerable danger in having our ranks split wide open."

The convention voted to stick by its "no-strike" pledge, and to condemn interference by General Hershey in the rights of seniority by granting returned veterans complete preferment in employment.

To National Office In Electrical Union

Call-Kansas City, Mo. 11-13-44

NEW YORK. — (ANP) — First Negro ever elected to a national office of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, third largest CIO union is Philip Jones of St. Louis, elected at the recently concluded international convention of the union held here.

Unions Will Welcome Negroes To Australia

Chicago Defender — Ill.

12-23-44

DOVER, Del.—"Officials of thirty-odd unions told me Negroes settling in Australia after the war would be welcomed into the unions," Enoc P. Waters Jr., Chicago Defender war correspondent, told delegates to the state NAACP meeting here Sunday.

"Industrialists, while not definitely promising jobs, said that our color would not be a bar to our securing employment," he added, blasting a popular misconception about the "white Australia" policy.

The first Negro correspondent to land in the Philippines, Waters is back in the states on leave after 18 months in the Southwest Pacific theater of war. Hopping by plane from one island fighting front to another, he covered more than 100,000 miles. Much of his time was spent in Australia where he talked with government officials and labor leaders.

No Question of Race

"Once the Australians got to know us, the Negro—for he, like us had been grossly misinformed and uninformed—he willingly accepted us into his home, his family, his church, his pubs, hotels, theaters, dance halls and night clubs," Waters told the audience.

"There was no question of race as far as he was concerned. We were American visitors and we decided by our own demeanor, education and interests into what strata of society we moved."

Waters was made a permanent member of the Australian Journalists club while in Sydney, the only American newspaperman to be so honored. 12-23-44

GI's Raise $1000 For NAACP

Praising the Negro troops he met while touring the Pacific battlefront with Bishop James A. Gregg, Waters told of the great interest these men have in what is happening in America today.

"The boys overseas are definitely looking forward to a new America when they return," he stated. "I know of a colored outfit where a Chicago cab driver voluntarily instituted a campaign among the 600 members of his outfit and raised a thousand dollars for the NAACP within a month."

"There is a pronounced trend toward the greater use of Negro officers in colored outfits," he continued. "A hundred or more Negroes in the Southwest Pacific who went overseas as enlisted men are now in command of outfits or performing some specialized functions of army officers. They have done well, though their advancement to higher ranks has been incommensurately slow." 12-23-44

Negro, White GI's Get Along

"The relationship between white and Negro soldiers over there is all one could desire. Many of the whites have been shocked to learn of the barriers placed in the path of the Negro at home. I've seen white boys indignant over such disgraceful exhibitions as the Philadelphia traction strikes, and the labor disturbances growing out of attempts to employ or upgrade Negroes."

Waters termed his battlefront experiences an "education." "I'm going back to the Philipuines from which I came less than a month ago," he concluded. "One of my reasons is purely selfish. I want to continue this education I'm getting. Secondly, I think that whatever links of contact between them over there and you over here have existed should be continued."

Waters will visit New York, Washington and other cities in the east before returning to Chicago.

Suit Against Jim Crow Boilermaker Union In Rhode Island Continues; New Case Heard

Age — New York, N.Y.

6-10-44

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—Negro workers at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyards here rested their case May 29, against the jim crow auxiliary of the Boilermakers Union. The international union was scheduled to present its case beginning June 5.

The legal action now under way seeks to make permanent the temporary injunction issued last January by Judge Alexander Churchill of Superior Court here, restraining the Boilermakers union from restricting Negro workers to an auxiliary union. Judge Churchill held that auxiliaries are not legal in Rhode Island.

In the testimony so far before Judge Patrick P. Curran, officials of Local 308 declared it was a representative of the international union, and not local men, who threw out the votes of Negro members in the election last December. Previous testimony has indicated that some Negroes here were members of Local 308. 6-10-44

Counsel for the union made two motions May 31, one to require the Negro complainants to state whether they desired relief as to the union election of last December, or as to the broad question of jim crow auxiliary unions. The other motion was to have the complaint dismissed as to those Negro complainants who now hold regular Local 308 cards. Judge Curran withheld ruling on both motions pending the conclusion of the case. Thurgood Marshall of the NAACP and Joseph LeCount are representing the Negro workers.

Negro Boilermakers Pay Double

Tribune — Savannah, Ga.

7-22-44

AMOUNT PAID BY WHITE UNION MEMBERS

Providence, R. I.— Negro members of the jim crow auxiliary of the Boilermakers union pay twice as much for insurance as the white members of the regular locals, it was testified here June 14 by William Buckley, international vice president of the union.

Buckley's testimony came at the close of a four-weeks hearing in superior court before Judge Patrick P. Gurran, on a suit to secure a permanent injunction against auxiliary unions in this state. Negro workers at the Walsh-Kaiser ship yards here brought the suit after their ballots were thrown out in a union election last December. In January they secured a temporary injunction issued by Judge Alexander Churchill. 6-22-44 The colored workers are represented by Thurgood Marshall, NAACP special counsel, and Joseph Le Count of this city. Counsel fo both sides will file briefs with the court June 21 and at that time will decide whether closing arguments will be made.

New York Age
7-8-44 35 k

NEGRO TRADE UNIONS MEET IN CHICAGO FOR 2-DAY SESSION

Chicago, Ill.- Sidney Hillman, chairman of the CIO Political Action Committee was the principal speaker at the two day national political education conference of Negro trade unionists here June 24-25.

Other speakers included Congressman William L. Dawson; R.J. Thomas, president of the United Transport Service Employees of America.

Sessions of the conference were held at the Southside Community House, 5210 South Parkway, Chicago 15, Ill. Officers of the Institute include Wesley Thompson of UAW-CIO, president, and John Yancey, treasurer.

Philly Union Elects Negro After Strike

N.Y.

11-4-44

Made Vice President of Union Which Figured In Anti-Negro Hate Strike

PHILADELPHIA, (ANP) — Max Windham was elected as one of the four vice-presidents of the Philadelphia Transit Company union, TWU-CIO, last week by white union members who had staged an anti-Negro strike only 60 days before. The alleged anti-Negro whites also elected four Negro workers to the union's executive board.

The drastic about-face of white members of TWU-CIO, who formed a bulk of the 6,000 transit strikers last August, has been characterized by some as somethting akin to a modern paradox, but not to Max Windham.

11-4-44

Not Surprised

"Look," he was quoted as saying, "I'm not surprised I was elected. Only if a fellow figures the strike last August was just on account of this race business he will be surprised. But, I know, the race business was just a phony, a trick to bust up our union."

"I'm not saying there is not a lot of fellows in the union and outside who don't like Negroes," Windham continued. "That is not the point. The point is that ordinary like fellows wouldn't go out of their way to hurt me. They never have before. I always get along all right with them." 11-4-44

Expect No Trouble

A former garage worker, Windham came to the PTC about six years ago as a welder. He is a handsome, soft-speaking and the 31-year-old father of two children. He is optimistic about his position as one of the four vice-presidents of his union, the others being Protestant, Catholic and Jewish, and does not expect trouble.

A cross-section of opinion among the PTC white employes was revealed at the Lucerne car barn strike, known as the largest car barn in the world, where about 1,000 men work, as to why they voted for Windham, a Negro, and why they went on the August strike. According to their replies, a small minority can be listed as confirmed Negro baiters, the rest as victims of circumstances. 11-4-44

The August transit strike was in fact a company lockout, various white employes pointed out. "That was no strike," one stressed. "It was practically a lockout. You've got to know how things work around here to understand that. If the company men really wanted to get the cars out of the barn, they could have done it. Lots of cars, anyway." The new CIO union of TWU men opposed the August strike and won the NLRB election last March by a vote of eight to one. Negro motors who had been top-graded.

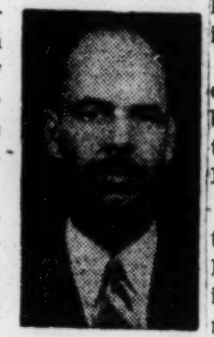
35k-1944

Toward Freedom

12-18-44
New York Daily Worker - N.Y.C.

By Doxey Wilkerson

OBSERVERS who have been wondering where A. Philip Randolph is heading will find their answer in his "Minorities and the World Today" speech before the recent national convention of the Workers Defense League in New York. Mr. Randolph is hastening toward political oblivion. He is seceding from the vital world of reality about him, and thus further isolating himself in the social democratic dream-world of impotence.



Proposing to talk about how to win the war, the peace, full employment and freedom, Mr. Randolph really presented the perfect 1944-45 formula for losing both the war and the peace, sabotaging the one great hope for full employment, and guaranteeing the triumph of fascism over freedom. His speech was in every respect true to that pseudo-"socialist" ideology which never misses a chance to serve Hitlerism the world over.

Mr. Randolph began with a three-sentence gesture on the importance of winning the war—BUT. He then proceeded to a lengthy address which distorted the true character of that war, "proved" that it really doesn't matter whether we win it or not, and sneered at all the promise of peace and security for which patriots the world over are now fighting—and winning!

What interpretation and proposals regarding the Negro's relations to this war would now best serve the purposes of our fascist enemies? Answer that question and you have the main tenets of Randolph's speech.

He absolves the fascists from war guilt: **"It wasn't Hitler, or Mussolini, or Hirohito"** who "created this world war," says Randolph.

He irresponsibly spreads defeatism among the Negro people: "I know of not a single Negro anywhere who believes that this war is being fought for freedom or democracy or human rights of any kind. Negroes believe that the results of this war, if not its aim, will be the maintenance and glorification of white supremacy." "There is not one Negro in the armed services who does not hate the Army and distrust the government."

He endorses the fascist race theory of the Hitlerites: "The question of color and race is the great historical social issue of these times."

He implies (with apparent approval) the ultimate triumph of the Japanese fascists: "The hope for control and domination of the East by Nippon will never die. And history would seem to indicate that the pendulum will some day swing from the decadent capitalist western white world to a rising and growing eastern world of color."

He subtly tries to identify the interests of the Negro people with this undifferentiated "world of color," in opposition to "whites," looking toward "a world war of color [that is almost] certain to come."

He seeks to disrupt the growing coalition of progressive white and Negro Americans by proposing a third party "comparable to the Canadian Cooperative Commonwealth Federation."

He offers the best possible program at this time to frighten the democratic, pro-Roosevelt, pro-Teheran sections of capital into the arms of fascist reaction by calling **now** for a "socialist" America "where the means of production and distribution are owned and controlled and democratically managed by the people through their government."

12-18-44

ALL this, of course, is rank political poison. It would be of great value to our fascist enemies **if it got a following among the Negro people.** BUT IT WON'T!

Randolph is not misleading the Negro people; he is further isolating himself from them. That political maturity which led the masses of Negroes to disregard Randolph completely during the recent national elections will guide them surely along the path of even greater unity with their increasing white allies in the labor and progressive movement. Along that path alone lie freedom and security for the Negro and the nation.

Next Monday I shall interpret the promising world of reality which Mr. Randolph chooses to ignore. Let it suffice to record that he is withdrawing from that world, and thereby from any effective influence on the course of history.

Mr. Randolph Secedes From the World

Open Season Is Declared Against Race Intolerance

Atlanta, Ga.

Labor Urged To Strike "Telling Blow" On Bias

ATLANTA DAILY World

CHICAGO—(A N P)—Charting a new course in industrial racial relations the seventh constitutional convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations meeting at Chicago's Stevens hotel this week adopted resolutions recommending that all CIO unions "seek the incorporation into collective bargaining agreements a provision that no person seeking employment shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, color or place of origin."

11-26-44

This resolution followed a report of CIO President Philip Murray who stated that through the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination more than 85 committees at state, county and city CIO councils have been organized since 1943.

"As this program developed," Murray declared, "it has been providing an additional aid in translating CIO policy to the individual worker. It also provides an additional aid in creating a much needed impetus to the development of local and state leadership. For the development of sound racial policies in our affiliated unions, the best technique is to have local and state groups working out the solution of their own problems within the framework of the policies established by the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination."

TO FIGHT INTOLERANCE

Re-inforced by this program of action, the first three days of the convention declared open season against racial and religious intolerance in CIO American life.

Among the speakers to direct attention to the problems of democratic citizenship were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, Rabbi Louis Binstock, the Rev. Arnold J. Carey and Bishop Bernard J. Shell of the Catholic church.

"WALLACE IN 1948"

Shouts of "Wallace in 1948" resounded throughout the hall as the vice-president declared, "I can congratulatet you for the Nov. 7 job. It was not a CIO, PAC, AFL or any other special group victory. Nov. 7 was primarily the victory of the common man and common w[illegible]." Wallace was interrupted in his speech by the unannounced appearance on the convention floor of New [illegible] fiery-Mayor F. H. La Guar[illegible]

Liberal Catholic Bishop Shell through thunderous applause told the 1,000 Negro and white delegates that "American democracy will never come to full flower until discrimination against Negroes and Jews and all minority groups is erased from our national and personal lives."

CALLS FOR BIAS BLOW

Calling upon labor to strike a "telling blow" against discrimination, Bishop Shell advised that "any discrimination tears into shreds the solidarity of the human race and makes a mockery of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Christ. We have asked the Negro and the Jew to fight and die for democracy; it would be the basest cynicism to refuse to share with them that democracy."

The convention adopted a resolution calling for an extensive organization program among the workers of the south. R. J. Thomas, president of the United Auto Workers union, urged an immediate drive in this section as a primary step in breaking down the barriers that exist between the races.

The convention reported an overall increase in membership during the year of more than 600,000. To date, out of the approximate [illegible] million CIO members, more th[illegible] 500,000 are Negroes.

NEGROES AND UNIONS.

Tribune—Chicago, Ill.

Bester Steele is a Negro locomotive fireman on the L. & N. railroad, living in Alabama. The union empowered by the railway labor act to bargain for firemen on the L. & N. is the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, but Steele cannot belong to the union because it bars Negroes from membership. This in itself would not prevent him from working as a fireman, since the railway labor act forbids the closed shop.

12-24-44

In 1940, however, the brotherhood served notice on the L. & N. and 20 other railroads in the southeastern states of its desire to amend its collective bargaining agreement with a view ultimately to barring all Negroes from jobs as firemen. Such an agreement was signed between the union and the railroads the following year. Steele filed suit in the state courts of Alabama, but found no remedy there, and appealed it to the United States Supreme court. That court reversed the Supreme court of Alabama and ordered it to retry the suit in which Steele asked an injunction restraining the union from craft, it cannot rightly refuse to perform the duty, which is inseparable from the power of representation conferred upon it, to represent the entire membership of the craft. While the statute does not deny to such a bargaining labor organization the right to determine eligibility to its membership, it does require the union, in collective bargaining and in making contracts with the carrier, to represent nonunion or minority union members of the craft without hostile discrimination, fairly, impartially, and in good

It operated to reduce employment opportunities purporting to act as the representative of him to Negro firemen by setting quotas on the number who might work, and assigning the new runs and other vacancies to white men, regardless of seniority rights, until the number of Negroes employed should fall within the limits of the set quota. In consequence, Steele and other Negro firemen lost preferred jobs and were assigned harder work at lower pay.

Under the railroad labor act, the Supreme court has held in many cases that an individual or labor union assumes the obligation of an employe cannot bargain with his employer or in case thru the union which is the authorized bar-

faith."

As the case now stands the railroad brotherhood cannot make agreements prejudicial to Negro members of the craft which it represents, but it still need not admit them to membership in the union. They are, by the Supreme court's mandate, to get consideration of their requests and opportunity to express their views, but as a minority they can still be excluded from any more active voice than this in the organization that has the legal power to bargain for their living. Mr. Justice Murphy criticized his colleagues of the court for deciding the case on what he called "legal niceties," while failing to denounce the deprivation of constitutional guaranties which he alleged was obvious in the conduct of the union, and there are many who will agree with his views.

Congress and the Roosevelt administration, with its long record of lip service and little else to Negro citizens, have a remedy at hand whenever they want to use it. That is to deny to any union which refuses to admit Negroes as full members the privileges accorded unions as bargaining agencies under the railroad labor act, the Wagner act, and other federal statutes.

Randolph Outlines 7-Point Program To Abolish Discrimination, At The Workers Defense League Convention

In an address opening the Workers Defense League's national convention, A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, AFL, outlined a seven-point program for the abolition of jim crow, designed to give Negroes the social, political and economic equality they seek.

Introduced by WDL chairman Rev. Aaron S. Gilmartin, as "a great American," Mr. Randolph proposed (1) The abolition of jim crow in the armed forces; (2) enforcement of the 14th and 15th Amendments to the Constitution; (3) enactment of the LaFolette-Dawson Bill in the House and Capper-Wagner-Chavez Bill in the Senate for a Permanent Fair Employment Practice Commission; (4) a Federal aid to education law to insure equality of educational opportunity for Negro and white youth in the South; (5) a National Commission on Race to plan to prevent race riots in the post-war period; (6) Negro representation at the peace table (7) Freedom for Africa.

"Negroes will redouble their war against Jim Crow everywhere in the schools, Army, trade unions, the Government, the worst offender of all the Church, YM and YWCA's," Mr. Randolph declared. "Negroes seek equality, economic, political, social and ethnic. The fight against anti-Negroism, anti-laborism, anti-Semitism, and anti-Catholicism is the fight against fascism nazism It's the fight for democrac , freedom and the good life."

Cooperative Commonwealth

Mr. Randolph called for an American Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, a political agency comparable to the Canadian Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, for the purpose of achieving full employment, peace and plenty. He emphasized that the war and the postwar conscription tend to make more acute the problem of Jim Crow, rather than offer a solution. "Our future society must provide opportunity for all the people to live and work cooperatively in an environment of democratic equality and fellowship," the labor leader asserted "an opportunity to participate fully and freely in the development of this society; to express their individual personalities and initiative in accordance with their talents and aspirations to live in houses and communities endowed with the best that modern science and modern art can contribute; to have enough of the right kinds of food, according to the standards established by modern nutrition; to receive education organized for young and old in accordance with the most advanced conceptions of democratic citizenship; and to enjoy leisure free from fear in an environment of beauty, pleasure and culture."

Supports Permanent FEPC

James B. Carey, CIO secretary-treasurer, thanked the WDL for its work in behalf of labor's rights, and declared. "The National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, as the Workers Defense League, wants to get a job accomplished. We will get the FEPC bill enacted. We will get the Wagner-Dingel bill enacted. We will see to it that America gets economic planning, that we get by 1946 sixty million well paid, well-informed workers. If we gear our economy to full employment, we can eliminate discrimination."

Nathaniel M. Minkoff, chairman of WDL Committee on Discrimination, who is secretary-treasurer of the N. Y. Dress Joint Board, ILGW-U-AFL, urged the importance of labor fighting discrimination in housing as well as in employment. The WDL Convention adopted resolutions calling for passage of the permanent FEPC bill without

The Company Charged With Promoting Racial Strife In Pullman Strike

CHICAGO—(ANP) — Blame for the seven-day strike at the Pullman Standard Car Manufacturing company was tossed back into the lap of the company officials last week by workers and union leaders as an attempt to smash local 2928, CIO United Steel Workers union, as the so-called race hate strike, involving 900 white workers, came to an end.

Sweeping charges of attempts to foment racial strife as well as of union busting were leveled at Pull-man officials as investigation of the walkout was being made by high public officials and union leaders.

Characterizing the so-called race hate strike as company inspired, both workers and union heads charged that the company knows how to create a racial situation that was aimed to divide and conquer the union by employing a reverse tactics of upgrading a Negro worker, in this case Bonnie Morgan, over a white worker whose seniority exceeded that of the Negro.

First, the company is charged with deliberately firing the white worker to make room for the upgrading of the Negro worker, although there existed still an unfilled super-visory post that should have been filled by Morgan, while the postheads had similar experiences.

Adjustment

Public officials, including Mayor Edward J. Kelly, were asked to intervene to bring the strike to an end. Settlement of the strike leaves Morgan intrenched in his position of white and Negro workers but an effort is being made by the union to adjust the matter of the fired white worker.

Public officials claim that in the fired white worker be returned to the fired white worker, workers claim that in violation of seniority rules and union rules by the company, the strike was more of a protest against the company knows worker; (2) upgrading of Morgan in violation of seniority rules and (3) refusal to fill a third super-visory vacancy.

White union leaders are said to have encountered considerable difficulty at first in showing white workers the real issues involved.

Joe Germano, regional director of the United Steel Workers union, was confronted by an irate group of white strikers who called him all kinds of names before he could

35k-1944

Jim-Crow Unionism

Afro-American - Baltimore, Md.

Reprinted from the Pittsburgh (Pa.) Post-Telegram

Recently spokesmen for the Southern railroads offered a number of reasons to explain why they could not and would not comply with the order of the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice requiring them to put an end to racial discrimination. 1-1-44

Now the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen, also refusing to comply with the order, has filed its answer, offering only one reason to justify racial discrimination. It simply says, flatly and finally, that nothing can be done about the matter because the constitution of the Brotherhood limits membership to "white persons only."

This, of course, is the real reason why "non-promotable" persons are denied employment by the Southern railroads, why colored men who are forbidden to become engineers and conductors can no longer be hired as firemen. 1-1-44

Employers Not to Blame

Whatever may be said against "soulless corporations," they have no racial prejudice. On a strictly business basis no railroad, North or South, cares about the color of its employees. Other things being equal, it would rather hire the best worker for any job. That is good business.

So in this controversy over the employment of colored workers on Southern railroads, and in other similar disputes, the charge of discrimination against employers is largely a subterfuge. It should be aimed at employees who require employers to incorporate prejudice in their contracts.

This was done by the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen and Enginemen when it undertook to freeze colored men out of their traditional fireman's job on Southern railroads. As long as firing an engine meant shoveling coal, it was all right for colored men to do the dirty work. 1-1-44

No Justification

But when mechanical improvements lightened the work and when higher pay made the job more attractive, organized white men deliberately attempted to take it away from colored men by denying them the right to join their own exclusive union.

There is no moral or legal justification for such vicious economic discrimination. All the laws enacted to guarantee labor the right to collective bargaining and grant it other special privileges were purportedly intended to give the underdog a break, to equalize economic opportunity, to put democracy into practice.

And whenever a union erects a jim-crow barrier to repudiate democracy by denying economic opportunity to the underdog, it forfeits its claim to those advantages for itself.

Group Can't Pick Own Labor Representative

Tribune - Washington, D. C. 1-15-44

By a vote of 8 to 1, the U.S. Supreme Court on Monday refused to review a decision which "deprives" forty-five Red Caps of the right to select their own representatives for collective bargaining and sanctions as their agent a white union which bars them from membership because of race.

The action left in effects a decision by the National Mediation Board that the porters were not a craft or class of employees and could not select their own representatives. The high tribunal had sustained this ruling on December 6, when without filing a written opinion, it cited a previous ruling that Federal courts should not interfere with Mediation Board action in union jurisdictional cases.

Reconsideration was sought of the December 6 decision which reversed a ruling by the U. S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia that the forty-five porters of the St. Paul (Minn.) Union Depot Company, who were excluded from one labor organization because they were Negroes, had a right to select another union to represent them.

The Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, which bars Negroes, claimed the right to represent the porters in labor negotiations because of a collective bargaining contract it entered into in 1921 included the Red Caps.

Now "Voiceless Minority"

Filing the petition for reconsideration was the United Transport Service Employees of America, which told the court that it had been chosen by the porters as their agent. 1-15-44

It further contended that the Mediation Board has relegated the porters to a voiceless minority in a craft or class in which they are not recognized and designated for them as a bargaining agent a brotherhood to which they cannot belong and in which they have absolutely no voice, also that they were left in a hopeless plight in the interstate railway labor field, if the interpretation stands. 1-15-44

The sole dissenter was Justice Wiley Rutledge, of Cloverport, Ky., who was "of opinion that the petition should be granted, the case restored to the docket and set for argument."

Organizations ask pardon for "Gag" Act victims

Tribune - Los Angeles, Calif. 2-14-44

WASHINGTON—Leading Negro organizations were named on the resolution by 800 groups presented to President Roosevelt last week by George Novack of the Civil Rights Defense committee, asking unconditional pardon for the 18 Minneapolis truckdrivers who were imprisoned under the Smith "Gag" act. With the resolution were petitions signed by more than 12,000 individuals, and of hundreds of letters, editorials, and articles and comments.

'Jim Crow' Unions Ruled Illegal In Rhode Island

Defender - Chicago, Ill 1-15-44

Providence, R. I.—In a sweeping opinion here Friday, Judge Alexander L. Churchill in Superior court ruled that the auxiliary union arrangement of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America was illegal in Rhode Island.

The auxiliary lodges of the Boilermakers union are set up for Negroes only, and members of auxiliaries do not have the same rights and protection as regular union members, although paying the same dues.

Judge Churchill's ruling came at the close of a week of argument in his court in which Thurgood Marshall, NAACP Special Counsel, and Joseph LeCount of this city appeared for certain Negro workers seeking an injunction to restrain Local 308 of the Boilermakers union from discriminating against them.

The action was the result of an election held in December in which Negro members of the union here at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyards were required to vote on a separate ballot marked "C" and deposit the ballots in a special envelope marked "protest" which were then placed in a separate ballot box.

All the ballots in the election were impounded by court order and action for a temporary injunction begun.

"No Discrimination" Policy

In his opinion Judge Churchill declared that the Fifth and Fourteenth amendments to the United States Constitution, plus the civil rights law of the state of Rhode Island established a public policy of no discrimination which he was obliged to follow. He also referred to the President's Executive Order 9346 forbidding discrimination in employment, and to the policies of the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

"These men (Negroes) are full-fledged members of Local 308," the opinion said.

Remarkable feature of the action was the testimony of officials of Local 308 that they were against discrimination and wanted the Negro workers as members of the regular local, 308. Testimony brought out by Marshall and LeCount established that the International headquarters in Kansas City, Kans., had ordered the ballots of the Negroes thrown out and had ruled that they could be only auxiliary members. 1-5-44

CALIFORNIA OKAYS JIM CROW UNIONS

SAN FRANCISCO — A California ruling, directly opposite to that of Rhode Island's Superior court, was handed down here Thursday in Federal District court.

A panel of three judges ruled that the court was without jurisdiction in an injunctive suit brought by Negro shipyard workers in an effort to force the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America, to admit them to full membership in the unions.

The Federal court panel consisted of Judges Michael J. Roche, Louis E. Goodman and A. F. St. Sure, their opinion stating, in part: "The plaintiff's (Negro workers) cause of action does not arise out of provisions of the Federal Constitution or any Federal statutes."

They also held that no Federal question was involved in the controversy which some weeks ago led to the discharge of several Negro boilermakers for refusing to join and pay dues to a jim crow auxiliary of the Boilermakers' Brotherhood, an AFL affiliate.

Herbert Resner, attorney for the plaintiffs, said that an action would be filed in the State Superior court within a few days.

WASTED MANPOWER

By Albert Black

A LABOR UNION CARRIES THE GREATEST STRENGTH

Philadelphia Tribune—Phila. Pa.

IT has always been my contention that more democracy exists in the C. I. O. than in our Congress which harbours such home-grown Fascists as Connally, Smith, Rankin, Bilbo and others who were advocating Hitlerism long before the little paperhanger came into power.

Several months ago I wrote a column under the title "ORGANIZED LABOR IS NEGROES SALVATION", in which I remarked: "The advantages of Organized Labor do not just stop at improved working conditions and higher wages. The advantages are far-reaching. Labor can demand a greater number of housing projects for the Negro; the roll back of prices; and passage of the anti-poll tax bill. These are just a few of the many advantages, but none of these accomplishments can become a reality unless the NEGRO HIMSELF BECOMES A POTENT PART OF ORGANIZED LABOR, and the only way he can do so is to join a nationally recognized

2-12-44

What has the C. I. O. to offer the Negro? It offers the Negro the opportunity to become strong in his fight against racial bigotry. The Congress of Industrial Organizations has carried on a fight for Negroes' rights since its inception in 1935. The Negro must realize today, tomorrow may be too late, that it is only through Organized Labor that he will be able to fight racial discrimination.

BLACK

union. NO NEGRO WORKER HAS THE RIGHT TO SIT IDLY BY AND DO NOTHING WHEN HE HAS THE OPPORTUNITY TO JOIN AND STRENGTHEN AN ORGANIZATION THAT IS CARRYING ON A BATTLE FOR HIS RIGHTS."

2-12-44

IF THE NEGRO CANNOT SELL THE WHITE RACE THE IDEA THAT HE SHOULD NOT BE DISCRIMINATED AGAINST, THEN THE NEGRO HAS NO RIGHT TO DEMAND EQUAL OPPORTUNITY. The only way the Negro can sell the white race the idea is for him to join a labor union and become strong.

What better example do we have than Local No. 1 of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilders Union of America, CIO, New York Ship Co., Camden, N. J., which sent a resolution to President Roosevelt urging him to enforce his directive (FEPC) against the PTC to hire Negroes and motormen and conductors?

This is very significant because of all the 33,000 CIO union members who endorsed this resolution only 1500 are Negroes. But these 1500 are active; many are officials within the Union and, as a result, the entire union is supporting them. This can be repeated in every union where a Negro holds a membership card.

The CIO is getting stronger every day. It is demanding and getting full and equal participation in all the burdens, crosses and a share of all the joys and responsibilities of democracy.

A strong union can do more for the Negro than the Pennsylvania State Negro Council, Urban League, NAACP combined. Why? Because a labor union is controlled by the rank and file of the membership and is not being used as a tool of powerful interests. Some of our own groups have been found guilty of being used as such.

WITH ALL DUE RESPECT TO OUR NEGRO ORGANIZATIONS WHICH ARE CARRYING ON A FIGHT FOR NEGROES' RIGHTS, NONE OF THEM HAVE THE POTENTIAL STRENGTH A LABOR UNION HAS.

The eyes of the country have been focused on No. 4 Yard of Sun Ship ever since it was built. Many people wondered what part the Negro worker would play in the CIO Shipbuilders Union Local 2, Chester.

No. 4 Yard has long been the battleground that the Company used in their fight against the CIO. It was in No. 4 Yard that the company used all its pressure to influence the Negro worker against the CIO, but the new Negro was not to be suppressed forever, and as a result No. 4 Yard is well on its way to being a 100 per cent CIO Yard. Negro workers are joining by the hundreds every week and as a result discrimination in Delaware county is in jeopardy. A NEW ERA IS AT HAND. Once 14,000 Negroes are completely organized, they along with their 18,000 white brothers are going to make sure that the signs "DO NOT HIRE", "DO NOT SERVE", "DO NOT EMPLOY," "NEGROES NOT ALLOWED," are taken down not only in Chester but in Philadelphia as well, and Democracy for all people will once again rule.

2-12-44

LABOR IS BEGINNING TO RECOGNIZE ITS OWN RESPONSIBILITIES AS THE FUTURE LEADER OF OUR NATION and THE WHOLE FUTURE OF AMERICA DEPENDS UPON THE UNITY OF THE BLACK AND WHITE WORKER.

Yes, it is so true as John P. Lewis of PM so ably put it. "The Negro should be associated with all groups which speak effectively for the Negro people. Particularly should he try to join a labor union because of all organizations a SOUND LABOR UNION HAS ITS ROOTS DEEPEST IN DEMOCRACY. . ."

For Union Equality

Amsterdam News. New York, N.Y. 2-19-44

A real blow was struck for equality in trade unions in the U. S. recently, when Justice Alexander L. Churchill of the Rhode Island Superior Court granted a temporary injunction to the Negro workers at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyard, Providence, restraining Local 308 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America (A. F. of L.) from discriminating against them. All Negro workers at the yard were put into a paper auxiliary union with no power to vote or anything else. All they were required to do was to pay dues!

In granting the injunction Justice Churchill said: "The sole purpose of the auxiliary was to segregate Negroes and people of no other color. These complainants (the colored workers) are entitled to all rights and privileges of members of Local 308."

2-19-44

One of the oldest and most unfair tricks of the A. F. of L. unions is to set up phony auxiliaries for Negro members. These auxiliaries are nothing but a snare and a delusion; an insult to any worker's conscience—a fraud born of race prejudice, discrimination and sheer greed for money on the part of white union bosses. They are also a grave threat to the growth of trade unionism in the U. S. Justice Churchill's ruling was the first real legal blow these unions and their chiseling officers have ever received. It is hoped, however, that it is only the beginning of a fight to the finish to abolish this kind of union trickery. All the credit in the world is due to the Negro workers who went through with the fight and the legal force of the NAACP for leading it in court.

Labor Forum

Amsterdam News-New York City

AS WE WIN, a report on Reconversion and Demobilization, just published by the CIO Postwar Planning Committee, is of special interest to minority groups, especially Negroes. The statement of "goals" by this important committee begins with this declaration of principle: "the following essentials can and must be assured to everyone, regardless of race, color or creed." Thus the CIO makes it clear that it is not sufficient to state goals for all. It must be made specific that the ALL means Negroes, Jews, Mexicans, Chinese, Indians, etc. In view of the still dominant patterns of segregation and exclusion of minorities, this specific definition of "all" is important.

Mr. Weston

Postwar Goals

These are the aims which the CIO, representing almost six million organized workers, has set for the days of peace:

"A job at union wages or a farm, business or profession that pays.

"A well-built convenient home, decently furnished.

2-19-44

"Good food, clothing and medical care.

"Good schooling for children, with an equal chance for healthy and happy growth.

"An adequate income through social insurance, in case of sickness, old age, early death of the wage earner, or unemployment". This is a five-point program which will inspire and rally the support of all Americans. For it takes in all, aims at the happiness and security of all.

The CIO leaders make the point over and over again; these postwar goals mean nothing unless we plan for them **as we win the war.** They point out that by the end of 1944 business will have built up the enormous reserve of 40 billion dollars after all taxes and dividends as its cushion for postwar stability and prosperity. The working people have no such cushion. **Right now, not later,** therefore, business, government, labor must make plans on a national basis to see to it that labor is protected by high wages, low prices, full employment, full production of goods the workers can buy.

An over-all federal agency, such as the one recommended by President Roosevelt and thrown out by the present Congress, is necessary to coordinate and direct such planning. The CIO wisely insists that labor be represented equally with business on all boards and agencies entrusted with organizing for this future of prosperity for all. To this provision we would add, representation must be provided for America's largest minority, the Negro. It will be part of labor's responsibility to insist upon this.

2-19-44

Elements of the Plan

THE CIO leaders list some of the elements of this planning for the future which must be part of the plan for military victory. They are: control of prices, for what goes up surely flops down; public works such as roads, schools, houses, playgrounds; enlarged social security provisions as included in the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill now on the shelf in this Congress, plus new provisions such as dismissal pay for war workers; discharge pay, scholarships and special benefits for veterans and their families; full democracy for all on the job and at the polls, which means not only the end of the poll tax but of other voting restrictions.

All these and more, says the CIO, will add up to a GOOD LIFE AT HOME which will be the best guarantee of GOOD WILL ABROAD. Cooperation with all nations must replace isolationism and imperialism.

Union Gets Break For Negro Workers

PM-New York, N.Y.

Assured that a discrimination against four Negro employes will end, more than 500 workers have returned to their jobs at the Continental Diamond Fibre Manufacturing Co. in Bridgeport, Pa., near Norristown. The company manufactures gears for airplane and tractor motors.

6-4-44

According to Edward Hirschberger, international vice president of the United Textile Workers Union, company officials have agreed to equal pay for Negroes, improved sanitary conditions for Negro workers and employment for Negro women.

Members of Local 58 of the Textile Workers struck unofficially three weeks ago, demanding equal opportunity for Negroes who were permitted to work only in the boiler rooms of the plant.

6-4-44

Five Equalities

James B. Carey, Secretary and Treasurer for the Committee for Industrial Organization, speaking to the delegates to the NAACP Chicago Wartime conference, outlined a course of action which, alike, should be adopted by organized labor and the Negro voter in their choice for political offices.

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

"What will benefit organized labor as a whole, will also benefit the Negro worker. Both groups want freedom from persecution and freedom of opportunity," said Mr. Carey. "I am not here to tell you for whom to vote. In fact I was specifically reminded that the NAACP is a non-partisan organization, committed to no political party or candidate," he continued. However, without mentioning any names to you, I believe I can safely and without infringement of any rules of etiquette, make a statement of what seems to us the minimum program which will benefit not only Negroes, but union members and the rest of the population."

7-22-44

We must elect men and women to office, he said, who believe in these five equalities! "Equal Job opportunities based on ability; 2. Equal pay for equal work; 3. Equal Job Security; 4. Equal hours and working con-

Members are entitled to these simple standards of we may citizenship no less than all citizens of this nation. Organ- for these ditions, and 5. Equal union membership and protection." titled to ized labor, no matter what its color or race, is also en- fidence of the con- to the equalities. And any office-seeker, however may look at him, who is not willing at least to work these privileges for all, is not deserving of the voting group.

35k-1944

Calls Labor Movement Races Best Vehicle For Job Security

Daily World- Atlanta, Ga.

Hampton Speaker Cites Aircraft Industry As Examples Of Progress

1-27-44

HAMPTON INSTITUTE, Va.—(SNS)—The labor movement offers the Negro his best vehicle for arriving at economic security, George L. P. Weaver, director of the national CIO committee to abolish racial discrimination, told an audience in Dupont Hall at the college last Tuesday evening.

Full employment is an essential premise for a stable and democratice post-war economy, Mr. Weaver added, stating that in industries where Negroes have become an important and integral part of the labor union movement their rights and interests will be protected. He cited the aviation industry as an area in which Negro union members have attained a strong foothold.

ANTI-DISCRIMINATION TECHNIQUES

Discussing techniques employed by the CIO to eliminate racial discrimination in industry, Mr. Weaver said that his committee had found it difficult to formulate any overall policy or techniques which would be applicable everywhere because of varying traditions and patterns in different communities. Education of community leaders as well as workers and management is frequently an effective tool, while occasionally it is the CIO local which must be brought into line.

He asserted that when the union and the company, or the union and the government, take a firm stand on the racial issue, "hate" strikes are averted, but such strikes are likely to occur if one of these elements is vacillating. He also said that management's disregard of the racial phase of a union contract is nearly always accompanied by disregard of other phases of the contract. Moreover, employers in general will not allow discriminatory practices to interfere with profits and will employ Negro labor if by doing so they can keep wages down.

SAYS WOMEN WILL REMAIN

2-27-44

Mr. Weaver also predicted in his talk that there will not be a wholesale return to the home of women who have entered industry during the war, but that a large percentage of women workers will remain on their jobs after the war.

Newly-won independence and increased income from wartime earnings were cited by him as the incentives which will cause many well-trained women to continue in the occupations for which they have been trained.

SEPARATE UNION FOR NEGRO RAIL PORTERS DENIED

Daily Tribune-Chicago, Ill.

1-11-44

Court Refuses to Alter Board Ruling.

Washington, D. C., Jan. 10 (AP).—The Supreme court today stood pat on a decision that had been denounced as denying a group of Negroes the right to choose their own collective bargaining representatives and as leaving them in a state of "involuntary economic servitude."

The court's action applied specifically to 45 Negro railway station porters in St. Paul who, because of their race, were barred from membership in a railway brotherhood that at the same time claimed the right to represent them in labor negotiations.

The court refused to reconsider its decision of Dec. 6 sustaining a national mediation board ruling that the porters do not form a separate craft or class of employes and, under the railway labor act, do not have the right to select another union to speak for them.

Charge "Hopeless Plight."

The United Transport Service Employes union, contending that it had been chosen by the porters as their bargaining agent, sought reconsideration of the opinion. It asserted that the ruling left Negroes in a "hopeless plight" in the interstate railway labor field.

United Transport contended that the porters had been shunted aside as a "voiceless minority" in a craft in which they were not recognized. It charged that they had been forced to accept the Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks as their representative altho they could not belong to the union or have any voice in its conduct.

Furthermore, the union argued, the mediation board had in other cases recognized United Transport as a craft organization representing red caps and had accepted it as their bargaining agent in dealings with 21 other railroad or station companies. 1-11-44

Court Keeps Hands Off.

Without filing a written opinion, the Supreme court on Dec. 6 simply cited its previous ruling that federal courts should not interfere with mediation board action in union jurisdictional disputes.

United Transport asserted that such an interpretation of the law deprives the porters of "basic rights" and is unconstitutional because the railway labor act gives employes the right to organize and bargain collectively thru representatives of their own choosing.

The board's designation of the brotherhood as the bargaining agent, United Transport declared, "is involuntary economic servitude and . . . is obnoxious to the 13th amendment as constituting limitations on individual rights which pertains to the status of slave rather than to free men."

The brotherhood based its claims on a 1921 collective bargaining contract with the St. Paul Union Depot company, which it said covered the red caps.

A Catholic's View On Negro Unionists

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y. 1-3-44

By George Morris

Full support of the Communist position on the Negro question in the trade unions is contained in an article in **Commonweal**, leading magazine of Catholic intellectuals.

John C. Cort, one of the editors of the Journal and its authority on trade union problems, urged his colleagues in the Detroit branch of the Association of the Catholic Trade Unionists to put their anti-Communist charge of "hypocrisy" under a "re-examination."

Mr. Cort disagrees with the **Wage Earner**, organ of the Detroit ACTU, on its anti-Communist attacks on the Negro question, as it developed on the floor of the Buffalo convention of the United Automobile Workers. 1-3-44

He draws the following conclusion:

"At the risk of shocking my friends and fellow Actionists in Detroit, I am hereby throwing my post mortem vote with the Communist position. And, incidentally, it has been my experience that most Communists believe very strongly and sincerely in racial equality and that by their insistence on the principle they lose more political support than they gain, since they obviously offend more whites than they please Negroes. So perhaps our constant talk of CP hypocrisy on this score could stand re-examination."

THE ISSUES

Mr. Cort is anti-Communist in his views. But he recognizes realities and criticizes the Detroit ACTU for not doing likewise. He, like the forces in the UAW headed by Walter Reuther, also refers to the group led by George F. Addes and Richard Frankensteen as "Communists." The fact is that the Communists supported this group on most of the basic issue and in the elections.

What was the question at Buffalo? With tens of thousands of Negro members in the union, the issue of a Negro member at the General Executive Board, postponed from previous conventions, became a burning one.

To overcome obstacles in the union's election procedure, the forces of George F. Addes and Richard Frankensteen, proposed first the election of a Negro at large, but later compromised on setting up of a "minorities department," headed by a Negro who would be a member of the board with only one vote. The latter provision was a further compromise because the opponents objected since that board member casts a vote according to the dues standing of the respective district. As a still further compromise to the objections of the opposition, it was agreed to delete the term "Negro" from the constitutional amendment, but with the understanding that a Negro would hold the post.

The Reuther forces charged that the proposal was "jimcrowism in reverse" and wanted no part of it. They also had the support of the elements that were outspoken Jim Crowists (quite a few attended the convention) who opposed giving any recognition to a Negro.

CORT GIVES REASONS

The great majority of the Negro delegates voted for the Addes-Frankensteen proposal. Ever since the convention, the Reuther forces and the **Wage Earner** have been complaining bitterly that "Communist promises" to the Negro delegates deprived them of the chance to capture the union. 1-3-44

Stressing the "intellectual necessity of supporting the C.P. amendment," Mr. Cort gives the reasons as follows:

"First: should the large Negro group in the UAW have at least one representative on the executive board? Answer: yes. It is obvious that the Negro suffers from peculiarly serious injustices and peculiarly violent prejudices that are shared by no other sizable minority in the union. It is only necessary to remind ourselves of the Detroit race riot and the recent inexcusable strike of 20,000 (mostly UAW members) at the Packard plant over upgrading of Negro workers.

"Second question: Is it practically possible under the present setup to have a Negro elected to the executive board? Answer: no. The present board consists of 22 members of whom four are officers and 18 are elected regionally. Since neither a Negro on the board other than provision possible were defeated and suggests that the charge of hypocrisy may apply more to the other

gave this sec- side. 1-3-44

proposal little. Instead of taking a stand as out-

came to the lined by Mr. Cort, a stand that is

ay not prove receiving substantial support among

Catholics generally, the Detroit

ACTU as the writer himself notes,

RUITS writer entered a "loose amalgam" with

weal's Thus the Commonweal's

right nor left wing is strong enough by creating one or more seats for adds:

to risk the loss of many white votes, members at large and reserving at "Right wing leaders gave

neither dares to nominate a colored least one of these, wither explicitly and best (Reuther) proposal

man as the representative of pre- or implicitly, for a Negro? Answer: or no support when it came

dominantly white workers. I can't think of any." floor. Which may or may not

"Final question: Until such time Mr. Cort then pointed out how **something."**

as a Negro can be elected to repre- both the Communist-supported and

ent whites, is there any way to get Reuther proposals to make such

the red - baiting groups of Walter Reuther, Norman Thomas Socialists, social democrats, and Trotzkyists.

Of course it is necessary to distinguish sharply between such ACTU members who sincerely adhere to their program and those among them who are Coughlinites or under the influence of his fascist elements. Unfortunately, the latter element is too conspicuous in Detroit's ACTU affairs and are responsible for dragging the group into the mud of factionalism and the consequent tie-up to harmful policies. 1-3-44

Mr. Cort's frank discussion of this problem leads him to conclusions that are identical with those of the Communists. Is there any reason why, at least on this issue Catholics and all progressives, including Communists, cannot work together? Only those blinded by red-baiting and diverted by destructive factionalism, could think so.

In subsequent articles by Mr. Cort, (which we will deal with later) he sees other common ground, particularly in the fight for trade union democracy.

Negro Trade Unionists

—By Doxey Wilkerson

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. 3-16-44

I have said quite a bit in this column about the urgent necessity for the labor movement to become more aggressive in fighting for Negro democratic rights.

It is time to emphasize also the special responsibilities of Negro members of trade unions. They have an important job to do during this period —for their unions, for the Negro people, and for our nation as a whole.

The labor movement, despite notable exceptions, is the most powerful ally of the Negro people in their struggle toward freedom. A strong, democratic and unified labor movement is also the greatest bulwark of our nation against the current threat of fascist reaction. A politically alert and active labor movement is the best possible guarantee that the democratic forces of our nation will emerge triumphant in the crucial 1944 elections.

Without such a labor movement, there can be no progressive solution for the truly critical problems which now confront both the Negro people and the nation. From this fact there should flow a number of practical implications for the role which Negro trade unionists should now play.

I learn more and more of situations in which Negro trade unionists tend to isolate themselves from their white fellow-unionists, either because of internal union factional conflicts in which they have no special interest, or because the union's program gives too little attention to the struggle for Negro rights. 3-16-44

Many Negro trade unionists seldom, if ever, attend meetings of their locals. If present, they take little or no part in discussions on issues which do not specifically concern the Negro. Sometimes they grumble **on the outside** about the union's failure to act on Negro grievances.

There are a few cases in which Negro members have organized a separate "Negro bloc" within the union, throwing their voting strength opportunistically to whichever leaders promise most "recognition" to the Negro, without regard to the more fundamental principles of trade union and national welfare which are at stake in internal conflicts within their organizations.

None of these approaches offers any solution at al to the problem of moving the unions into more active participation in the struggle for Negro democratic rights. The Negro trade unionist must play a much more positive and constructive role.

Let the Negro union member become active in promoting the general program of his union. He thereby wins respect and influence with which to fight for more vigorous union support for those measures in which he has a special interest.

Let the Negro trade unionist rally consistently behind the progressive, win-the-war leadership of his union. He therefore helps to build the kind of organization which is able and willing to fight for the extension of democracy for the Negro people and the nation as a whole.

Let the Negro trade unionist throw himself fully into the development of a vital program of political action for his union. He thereby contributes his most to returning to the White House and to Congress in the fall of 1944 of a government which is friendly to the Negro people, friendly to the labor movement and committed to the winning of a people's victory and a people's peace. 3-16-44

Negro trade unionists must do their utmost to win thousands more of their Negro fellow-workers to the ranks of organized labor. They must attend union meetings regularly and take an active part in **all** the programs of their locals. Especially must they collaborate with those forces within their unions which seek to unite the membership behind truly progressive policies of political action.

This is the way to help build unions which will exert increasing pressure for the achievement of Negro democratic rights.

This is the way to secure Negro war-workers against the threat of wholesale layoffs when the time for personnel cut-backs arrives.

This is the way to strengthen the labor movement for effective struggles to realize the democratic perspective of Tehran.

This is the way in which Negro trade unionists can now best promote the welfare of their unions, the Negro people and the nation as a whole.

Labor and the Negro

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. 2-3-44

By Doxey Wilkerson

Organized labor must take steps now to crystalize policies and develop procedures which will prevent the wholesale discharge of Negro workers as war production declines and when war plants are reconverted to civilian production. 2-3-44

This is not a problem which can be postponed until after the war, nor is it a problem of the Negro workers alone. In the interests of the labor movement itself, and in the larger interests of the nation—for democratic national unity in the 1944 elections and to guarantee the perspective of Tehran — trade unions must tackle this issue and work out progressive solutions NOW.

Since Negro workers were the "last hired" in major war industries, any mechanical application of the seniority principle would make them the "first fired" when the time for mass lay-offs arrives. This process is already under way in a number of plants. Carried to its logical conclusion, Negro workers would bear the brunt of whatever unemployment results from the decline and ultimate cessation of war production.

DANGER OF DISUNITY

Justly anxious over this threat to their employment security, Negro trade unionists and the Negro people generally have already begun to raise the question: What is the union going to do to protect our jobs? They **must** be given a definite and a progressive answer.

The alternatives are internal division and weakening of the unions, and disruption of the growing alignment between organized labor and the Negro people in the democratic coalition of national unity. Nothing could better serve the interests of those defeatist enemies of our country who hope to seize control of the government in 1944, to reverse the progressive foreign and domestic policies of President Roosevelt, and to supplant the democratic goals of Tehran with fascist oppression at home and imperialist aggression abroad.

A truly enlightened approach to this problem was adopted recently by Local 252, United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers, which is trying to organize duPont's Remington Arms Plant at Bridgeport, Connecticut. Their policy on Negro lay-offs warrants serious consideration by every union in the country. 2-3-44

When the company announced that production would have to be curtailed and about 3,000 workers laid off because of a nation-wide accumulation of small arms, UE Local 252 (as reported in the Dec. 22 issue of REMCO NEWS) addressed the following letter to the plant manager:

"Dear Sir:—On Sunday, Dec. 12, the membership of Remington Local 252 voted the following recommendations on layoffs as they affect Colored workers:

"1. While seniority is the governing principle on layoffs, a mechanical application of seniority would result in the elimination of every Colored worker at Remington, with resultant hardship on the Colored community as a whole.

"2. That seniority as a principle assumes that a generation of workers had an opportunity to accumulate seniority. However, due to discriminatory practices, Colored workers never had a chance to accumulate seniority.

"3. That justice and fair play demand a reasonable approach so that the same PERCENTAGE of Colored be laid off as white workers—no more, no less.

"4. That plant-wide seniority lists be compiled for both Colored and white, and (if) cut-backs are to be, say, 30 per cent of the average, say, 30 per cent of the plant personnel, then this same percentage to be applied equally to both lists. This will maintain the present ratio in the plant.

"5. That the effective date for the compilation of the seniority lists shall not apply to those hired prior to Jan. 1, 1939. This will maintain the basic principle of seniority and at the same time as a certainty

Justice Rivers' Defender Urges Negroes To Join Labor

Chicago Sun 2-19-44

PHILADELPHIA.—The position of the colored man in the post-war era will be stronger because his advancement is closely interwoven with the progress of American life as a whole, Judge Francis E. Rivers of New York said Friday.

This will not be obtained, he declared, without some impetus from Negroes themselves. In New York City Court, he asserted, was a real demonstration of democracy at work in as much as he was put into office by 30,000 Negro voters and 135,000 white voters.

He advocated close affiliation with the labor movement which he predicted was rapidly growing to be one of the most powerful factors on the political and economic fronts. His own election as an assistant district attorney, and his subsequent election to the bench, he declared, were the result of the support of the labor movement.

Judge Rivers pointed out, colored voters had demonstrated their political strength now had judges of their own group, councilmen, and others in big office, and were more or less sure of electing a congressman.

the red - baiting groups of Walter Reuther, Norman Thomas Socialists, social democrats, and Trotzkyists.

Of course it is necessary to distinguish sharply between such ACTU members who sincerely adhere to their program and those among them who are Coughlinites or under the influence of his fascist elements. Unfortunately, the latter element is too conspicuous in Detroit's ACTU affairs and are responsible for dragging the group into the mud of factionalism and the consequent tie-up to harmful policies. 1-3-44

Mr. Cort's frank discussion of this problem leads him to conclusions that are identical with those of the Communists. Is there any reason why, at least on this issue Catholics and all progressives, including Communists, cannot work together? Only those blinded by red-baiting and diverted by destructive factionalism, could think so.

In subsequent articles by Mr. Cort, (which we will deal with later) he sees other common ground, particularly in the fight for trade union democracy.

Negro Trade Unionists

—By Doxey Wilkerson

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y. 3-16-44

I have said quite a bit in this column about the urgent necessity for the labor movement to become more aggressive in fighting for Negro democratic rights.

It is time to emphasize also the special responsibilities of Negro members of trade unions. They have an important job to do during this period —for their unions, for the Negro people, and for our nation as a whole.

The labor movement, despite notable exceptions, is the most powerful ally of the Negro people in their struggle toward freedom. A strong, democratic and unified labor movement is also the greatest bulwark of our nation against the current threat of fascist reaction. A politically alert and active labor movement is the best possible guarantee that the democratic forces of our nation will emerge triumphant in the crucial 1944 elections.

Without such a labor movement, there can be no progressive solution for the truly critical problems which now confront both the Negro people and the nation. From this fact there should flow a number of practical implications for the role which Negro trade unionists should now play.

I learn more and more of situations in which Negro trade unionists tend to isolate themselves from their white fellow-unionists, either because of internal union factional conflicts in which they have no special interest, or because the union's program gives too little attention to the struggle for Negro rights. 3-16-44

Many Negro trade unionists seldom, if ever, attend meetings of their locals. If present, they take little or no part in discussions on issues which do not specifically concern the Negro. Sometimes they grumble **on the outside** about the union's failure to act on Negro grievances.

There are a few cases in which Negro members have organized a separate "Negro bloc" within the union, throwing their voting strength opportunistically to whichever leaders promise most "recognition" to the Negro, without regard to the more fundamental principles of trade union and national welfare which are at stake in internal conflicts within their organizations.

None of these approaches offers any solution at al to the problem of moving the unions into more active participation in the struggle for Negro democratic rights. The Negro trade unionist must play a much more positive and constructive role. 2-3-44

Let the Negro union member become active in promoting the general program of his union. He thereby wins respect and influence with which to fight for more vigorous union support for those measures in which he has a special interest.

Let the Negro trade unionist rally consistently behind the progressive, win-the-war leadership of his union. He therefore helps to build the kind of organization which is able and willing to fight for the extension of democracy for the Negro people and the nation as a whole.

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"Very truly yours, Neale McGilli-protect[illegible]

Here lies a progressive solution to [illegible]ddy, International Organizer."

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PHILADELPHIA.—The position of the colored man in the post-war era will be stronger because his advancement is closely interwoven with the progress of American life as a whole, Judge Francis E. Rivers of New York said Friday.

Speaking at the dinner meeting of the Christian Street YMCA Emblem club, the jurist told the 300 members and guests that complete integration of colored Americans

35k-1944

AFL

AFL Race Bias Swings Negro Labor To CIO Unions, AFL Parley Told

12-2-44

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS, La.—An appeal that racial discrimination be stopped in the AFL lest the CIO continue its success in winning labor board elections in plants where colored workers hold the balance of power, was made last week in a memorandum to American Federation of Labor convention delegates by Richard W. Smith, of Chicago, representing the Joint Council of Dining Car Employees.

Smith's memorandum, which was distributed to all delegates and filed with the convention, asked that the AFL back up with action President William Green's recent statement in a Negro publication that "we face a glorious opportunity, when the war ends to build on the progress already made and to break new ground in our advances against the forces of intolerance and prejudice."

Smith is secretary-treasurer of the Dining Car Employes.

The memorandum was directed to "realistic and democratic-minded delegates attending the AFL convention with the interest of the future of the AFL in mind, as well as the interest of the people who are directly affected by the discriminatory policies of some affiliated international unions."

See Negroes Pro-CIO

It pointed out that heretofore the question of discrimination against Negroes had usually been placed before AFL conventions only as a moral issue, but the entrance of other organizations, such as the CIO, into the labor field, with more liberal policies regarding the Negro "demands that the AFL examine current discriminatory practices for their effect on the future of the organization."

"Beyond reasonable doubt, the average Negro worker is pro-CIO in his sentiments. Because of this, I am certain that in the organization of workers in war plants, the AFL lost out on several occasions because of pro-CIO sentiment of Negro workers who probably held the balance of power in the voting."

In another part of the memorandum, Smith was prophetic in warning that he was afraid the AFL will lose out after the reconversion period of post-war days, "in some of the very plants where they now hold contracts unless through a progressive, liberal, and concerted program, we attempt to change the pro-CIO attitude of the average Negro worker."

Cites PAC Stand

The convention was told through the memorandum that findings have shown that the Negro's pro-CIO sentiments had been greatly strengthened by the CIO's Political Action committee during the presidential campaign "because of the CIO's stand at that time on the Negro question."

The memorandum also made known to the convention that in labor board elections, many plants of and members for the AFL have been lost because of the discrimination issue," and Negroes have voted with forces opposing the AFL on this ground alone."

It also averred that "A large number of established AFL local unions have been wiped out of plants and shops because of discrimination by some unions of the AFL, where the Negro vote was so influential that it could swing the election."

The delegates were told, "These trends and tendencies will continue in the post-war period unless checked by a more vigorous and liberal stand by the AFL on the Negro question."

UTSE Threat Developing

Smith's memorandum further revealed that the CIO United Transport Service Employees is attempting to "disrupt AFL Dining Car unions, and has caused our organization considerable trouble. It is attempting to confuse AFL dining car workers by broad references to discrimination against Negroes in the AFL. They cannot directly attack at the international level, for the Hotel and Restaurant Employes International Alliance and Bartenders' International League of America is a liberal and progressive organization, carrying no discriminatory clauses in its constitution, ritual, or by-laws, and having very little discrimination among its members."

Smith's dining car group is a part of the Restaurant Employees and Bartenders' International union.

"While it is generally known that the AFL, as such, does not bar Negroes from membership, the failure, or inability, of this composite body to influence or compel affiliated unions to subscribe to and concur in, the policies of the parent body is the main weapon with which the CIO is able to influence the Negro worker to see the CIO way," Smith continued.

Urges Action

He insisted upon the following immediate action: "Leaders and presidents of large international unions should speak out against discrimination at this convention. In doing so they could silence any elements which play upon the Negro issue for nefarious and sinister purposes.

"Leaders and presidents might well take the minimum forward step of seeking passage, by a resolution, to the effect that all international unions affiliated to the AFL, eliminate all discriminatory clauses based upon race, from their Constitutions, rituals, by-laws, and practices, within a certain period of time.

"This proposition, or resolution, should be referred to all affiliated international unions for a vote of their membership. If a majority of the international unions favor the proposition, it would then become mandatory for the other international unions to follow suit, or lose their affiliation with the AFL."

The Smith memorandum also asked the convention to go on record favoring a permanent Fair Employment Practice committee, the passage of anti-poll tax legislation, and the approval of an anti-lynching bill.

The convention was cautioned that the labor movement and country as a whole must not leave conditions unsettled that can lead to race riots and disturbances which can obstruct the carrying through of a program for an enduring peace and post-war security for all, regardless of race, color, or creed.

tory, the New York State Federation of Labor at the conclusion of its 81st annual convention unanimously elected a Negro to one of its top offices, Thursday.

Thomas G. Young, 42, recording secretary of Local 32-B of the Building Service Employees International Union, was elected to the organization's powerful legislative committee, which is entrusted with seeking to carry through in Albany all the decisions requiring legislation made by the state federation.

Following his election, Young said that his election was an indication that the state federation, and the A. F. of L., were among the most progressive organizations in the nation.

"I am proud and happy to have been elected," he said, "not so much for myself as for the good this will do for the Negro people and for all of America. Such actions as this will aid in bringing Negroes into the organized labor movement, and will make them understand that just as they fight in the Army of the United States, they will have assurance that their rights and privileges as free American citizens will be maintained.

"It is the hope and belief of thousands of Negro members of A. F. of L. unions that some day one of their number will be elected a vice-president of the A. F. of L."

9-2-44

AFL Warned Average Negro Worker Leans Toward CIO

Atlanta Daily World

Atlanta, Ga.

Liberal Leaders See FEPC As Weapon Against Racism

12-2-44

NEW ORLEANS (ANP)—A three-way attack against racism last week spear-headed three AFL leaders' efforts to put the AFL on record of favoring the establishment of a permanent FEPC.

Leading the attack against anti-Semitism and anti-Negroism were A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, Richard W. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Joint Council of Dining Car Employes and Louis P. Marciente, white, president of the New Jersey State Federation of Labor. Each presented resolutions to be adopted by the convention.

NAMED ON COMMITTEE

While the contents of Randolp's resolution were undisclosed, it is reported it will receive favorable consideration from the resolution committee by President Green.

Smith urged the AFL to combat as a means of self-preservation. Smith warned, "the average Negro worker is pro-CIO in his sentiments. Because of this I am certain that in the organization of workers in war plants, the AFL lost out on several occasions because of pro-CIO sentiment of Negro workers who probably held the balance of power in the voting."

12-2-44

CITES POINTS

AFL unions have suffered by their racial discrimination, Smith showed by pointing to two notable points:

1. "In NLRB elections, many plants and members for the AFL have lost because of the discrimination issue and Negroes have voted with forces opposing the AFL on this ground alone.

2. "A large number of established AFL local unions have been wiped out of plants and shops because of discrimination by some unions of the AFL where the Negro vote was so influential that it could swing the election."

In supporting a permanent FEPC the passage of the anti-poll tax bill and anti-lynching bill Smith said these "trends and tendencies will continue the post war period unless checked by a more vigorous and liberal stand by the AFL on the Negro question."

HIT ANTI-SEMITISM

Marciente's anti-Semitism ganized labor as a federal offense punishable by imprisonment and was called the strongest of its type ever presented to the AFL.

The resolution asked: "Resolved: That we call for the enactment of federal legislation as a wartime measure and as post-war measure, which will make organized discrimination, such as anti-Semitism; a criminal offense punishable by imprisonment. We believe that such a law is essential for the preservation of our great democratic principles and for the protection of Americans, regardless of race, color, or religion or national origin and for the ultimate protection of the trades union movement itself."

12-2-44

State Federation Of Labor Names Negro To Legislative Com.

SYRACUSE, N. Y. — Making his

Fight on Jim Crowism Urged at AFL Parley

Six Resolutions On Negroes Embody Strong Stand

By JOHN T. MOUTOUX
Staff Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 27.—The AFL convention may take a strong stand on the race problem.

Confronting the convention, as it resumed sessions today after a week-end's rest, were six resolutions on the subject submitted to the Resolutions Committee by delegates. Five of them came from A. Phillip Randolph and M. P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters. The sixth was turned in by Frank X. Martel, of the Detroit Federation of Labor.

Under the AFL Constitution, all resolutions must be referred to the convention for action; which means that regardless of the Resolutions Committee's attitude toward the resolutions, the 600 delegates attending the convention will have a chance to have their say on them.

Race Program

The six resolutions on the Negro question call for:

¶ AFL investigation into charges of discrimination against Negroes in the armed forces.

¶ Condemnation by the AFL of auxiliary unions for discrimination against Negroes and demanding their abolition by national and international unions which have such auxiliaries.

¶ Enforcement by the Justice Dept. of the U. S. Supreme Court decision outlawing white primaries.

¶ Enactment by Congress of the long-deferred anti-lynch law.

¶ Indorsement of the work of the FEPC and of pending legislation to make the agency permanent.

¶ Condemnation of the master race doctrine as "mythical, unsound, unscientific and a menace to peace and the democratic way of life."

Get Out the Vote

The possibility—though faint—that AFL may decide to follow the lead of CIO in the domain of political activity was seen in two resolutions submitted by delegates from the AFL's United Auto Workers.

One of them calls for development by the AFL of "permanent, complete and concise plans for getting out the vote."

The other calls on all international unions of the AFL to include in the constitutions and by-laws a clause which would make it "the duty of eligible members of this union, as proof of his love of liberty and democracy," and register and vote in all elections.

Other resolutions call for:

¶ Revision or abrogation of the Little Steel wage ceiling formula.

¶ Reaffirmation of labor's no-strike pledge.

¶ Repeal of the Smith-Connally Act.

¶ The creation of international machinery to secure the peace and protect small nations "against domination by the bigger powers."

¶ Development of the Missouri River Valley in the manner of the TVA.

¶ Appointment by President Roosevelt of AFL representatives to the Peace Conference.

¶ A boycott of goods made or grown in States with anti-labor laws. Florida and Arkansas are the latest of such States to join the anti-labor procession.

¶ Extension to merchant seamen of all rights and privileges already extended by Congress to men of the armed services.

¶ Re-establishment of labor unity in this country, with the AFL taking the initiative in seeking an amalgamation of the AFL, CIO and the UMW.

¶ Passage by Congress of the Wagner-Murray-Dingell health bill.

¶ Repeal of the Hatch Act so that Government employes may again be free to engage in politics.

¶ Expansion of Social Security.

¶ Opposition to compulsory military training.

35k-1944 AFL

Randolph Rips Jim Crow Unions In Hot AFL Debate

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 12-9-44

DELEGATES AT NEW ORLEANS AFL PARLEY

Defender — Chicago, Ill. 12-9-44

After delivering a sizzling blast at AFL racial discrimination in jim crow auxiliaries, A. Philip Randolph (second from right), president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, heard himself denounced by several white delegates as a "professional agitator." Here he is with (l. to r.) Theodore Brown, St. Louis examiner for the Fair Employment Practices committee; Milton P. Webster, vice president of the Porters' union; and Richard W. Smith of Chicago, secretary-treasurer of the Dining Car Employes' union.

By JOHN LeFLORE
(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS, La. — Carrying upon his shoulders the hope and faith of 13,000,000 fellow-black citizens in the struggle for the right to work, the masterly A. Philip Randolph held the 64th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor spellbound last week as he ripped into the resolution committee's convention report on Jim Crow auxiliary unions.

The indomitable Randolph, standing majestically on the floor of the convention, pleaded the cause of the Negro worker and exposed the veil of hypocrisy of the AFL in dealing with labor problems affecting the colored worker. The Sleeping Car Porters president unequivocally demanded that the Boilermakers, Machinists and Electrical Workers drop their color bars or get out of the American Federation of Labor.

12-9-44

Randolph's memorable speech was made in reply to a recommendation by the resolutions committee that the convention reaffirm the generalized declaration of the 1943 Boston Convention on the question of auxiliary unions, this was tantamount to a rejection of a sweeping resolution submitted by Milton P. Webster and Randolph, as delegates representing the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

Blasts Auxiliaries

Their resolution proposed that "this convention of the American Federation of Labor go on record as condemning the auxiliary unions and call upon all international and national unions that have such devices to abolish said auxiliary unions on the grounds that they are undemocratic, unfair and against sound trade union principles, and constitute taxation without representation, which the AFL cannot consistently countenance and tolerate as it fights for the rights of the wage earners from business and government."

Taking the bull by the horns in the heart of the Deep South, Randolph told the convention that the "Boilermakers control the shipping industry on the Coast, and the Negro workers have been consigned to an auxiliary union by that organization. What is an auxiliary union? An auxiliary union sustains the same relation to a National and International Union that a subject colony sustains to an Empire. The natives of a subject colony have no rights that the citizens of the Empire or the rulers of the Empire respect.

12-9-44

"In other words, the natives of a colony haven't the right to vote, they don't have the right to participate in the government that controls their right. They have no voice in the determination of the laws. They are subjects, and therefore they are oppressed and exploited.

'Union Imperialism'

"This same condition obtains in the auxiliary unions. Here you are witnessing a form of trade union imperialism, whereby workers, because of race and color, sustain the status of subjects and they are oppressed and exploited because of that fact.

"Now the members of an auxiliary union do not have the right to vote in the national conventions. They do not have the right to express an opinion with respect to the leaders who make contracts concerning rates of pay and rules governing working conditions that affect their very lives. They have nothing to say about the government of the organization to wnich they pay dues.

"In other words, the members of an auxiliary union have only the right to pay dues to the national organization. That obtains with respect to the Boilermakers and the other national and international organizations that maintain auxiliary unions.

12-9-44

"Now this Federation cannot maintain a dual form of membership. Either the second class membership will eventually prevail and become normal or the first class membership will become normal and prevail in the organization.

Fosters Fascism

"And I want to suggest another statement, namely, that racial discrimination anywhere not only endangers democracy everywhere, but aids and fosters Fascism everywhere, and when this Federation of Labor puts its stamp of approval upon second class trade union membership, typified by the auxiliary union, it is aiding and fostering the spread of trade union fascism in America."

Continuing, Randolph further attacked Jim Crowism and discrimination in the AFL in asserting: "When you read the Constitution of the Federation it sounds fine, but what do you think the Negro thinks of that preamble when he goes to a shipyard or plant — a Negro electrician or Negro boilermaker — and asks for a job and they tell him, 'You can't get a job here until you get a union card,' and then when he goes to the union, they tell him, 'You can't get a union card here until you get a job. Moreover, we are only taking sober and industrious white men.'

12-9-44

"We listen to a lot of glittering promises in these conventions from year to year, but when it comes to practice, we fall far short of the standard."

Declaring AFL policies on the Negro question comparable to the South's attitude about the Negro's civil rights, Randolph said, "Now, my fellow unionists, I tell you the question of race, or color, is a growing absorbing issue of the world today. The American Federation of Labor or no other organization is going to win its place in history as long as it maintains two types of membership.

"That is what they are doing here in the South. They have down here two forms of citizenship, one white — the white has all of the rights, all of the privileges, all of immunities. The Negro is disfranchised by the white families by the poll tax. Right here in New Orleans where this convention is sitting, Negro citizens are denied the right to vote by all kinds of devices, subterfuges, and tricks, and because of this dual citizenship of the South, the South is bankrupt.

"The talk about the workers not being willing to be in the same organization with Negroes is tommyrot. There are Negro and white workers together in a large number of organizations of the American Federation of Labor and there is no use permitting the Boilermakers getting away with this hypocrisy that they are trying to inflict on the American Federation of Labor. The Boilermakers, Machinists and Electrical Workers should be made to toe the line or be put out of the American Federation of Labor."

12-9-44

Sees Intimidation

Randolph flung a challenge to the delegates when he charged: "If you adopt the report of this committee, it is because lots of delegates in this convention are scared to oppose the report of the committee, and lots of representatives in this convention are afraid they will be the victims of the wrath of the high command of the American Federation of Labor. As long as you are scared you will never be able to build a strong and powerful democratic grdup that will gain the respect of mankind."

Randolph's speech won much applause from the liberal segment of the 900 delegates at the convention.

After Randolph's attack of the Jim-Crow unions in the AFL, the convention recessed until the afternoon, when big Charles J. McGowan, white, president of the Boilermakers, spoke from the rostrum to defend his union's policies and attempt to rebuke Randolph. He denied that his organization discriminates against Negroes by quoting from a letter written to the FEPC, at the request of that body for any explanation of policy of the Boilermakers, which stated in part, "There has not been and there will not be any discrimination by the employment of any worker, regardless of race, creed, color or national origin.

Calls Randolph Insolent

12-9-44

McGowan revealed that in a recently held Boilermakers' international convention a "very decided group, irritated by the allegations and accusations level against us" to justify the attempted step by step, steadily forward."

Denounces Social Equality

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Declaring AFL policies on the Negro question comparable to the South's attitude about the Negro's civil rights, Randolph said, "Now, my fellow unionists, I tell you the question of race, or color, is a growing absorbing issue of the world today. The American Federation of Labor or no other organization is going to win its place in history as long as it maintains two types of membership.

"That is what they are doing here in the South. They have down here two forms of citizenship, one white — the white has all of the rights, all of the privileges, all of immunities. The Negro is disfranchised by the white families by the poll tax. Right here in New Orleans where this convention is sitting, Negro citizens are denied the right to vote by all kinds of devices, subterfuges, and tricks, and because of this dual citizenship of the South, the South is bankrupt.

"The talk about the workers not being willing to be in the same organization with Negroes is tommyrot. There are Negro and white workers together in a large number of organizations of the American Federation of Labor and there is no use permitting the Boilermakers getting away with this hypocrisy that they are trying to inflict on the American Federation of Labor. The Boilermakers, Machinists and Electrical Workers should be made to toe the line or be put out of the American Federation of Labor."

12-9-44

Sees Intimidation

Randolph flung a challenge to the delegates when he charged: "If you adopt the report of this committee, it is because lots of delegates in this convention are scared to oppose the report of the committee, and lots of representatives in this convention are afraid they will be the victims of the wrath of the high command of the American Federation of Labor. As long as you are scared you will never be able to build a strong and powerful democratic grdup that will gain the respect of mankind."

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wanted to put the word "white" back in the constitution of the organization, "after we fought for years to take it out and did succeed in taking it out in the 1937 convention of our organization."

Apparently encouraged by McGowan's attack on Randolph, a white delegate, Leo G. Loring, president of the Tennessee State Federation of Labor, in an excited voice, sputtered, "We don't have any race problem, only the race problem that is brought up by Delegate Randolph. He goes up and down the length and breadth of this country preaching social equality. I have no complaint with unions from a national, international or local, who take Negroes in as members, but I do object to the Pullman Car Porters or anybody else telling Local Union 17 of the United Association of Journeyman Plumbers and Steamfitters that we have to take anybody. We are the sole judge of who shall become our members."

"I think it's high time to put a stop to this professional agitation in the labor movement. The white people aren't raising these problems; it's the Negroes."

Randolph's position against Jim-Crow unions was supported on the floor by Delegate Israel Zimmerman, who represented the Athens, Sayre, Pa., and Waverly, N. Y., central labor bodies, and Delegate Tuvim of the International Ladies Garment Workers.

Decries Talk of 'Agitation'

Delegate Zimmerman said that if the convention must limit its talk against racial discrimination in unions to mere declaratory statements and judgment that, instead of being vacillating, "be forthright and sincere and say we cannot compel you to do this (abolish Jim-Crow unions and discrimination), but we, the officers of the American Federation of Labor, we, the Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor, we, the delegates to the convention of the American Federation of Labor are unalterably opposed to the practice of any kind of discrimination within any section of the labor movement."

Further in his discussion of the question, Zimmerman declared, "If we do not take steps to eliminate them (discriminatory practices in unions) we weaken our own influence, we weaken our own methods, our own chances of playing a tremendous role in the rebuilding of the world along democratic lines."

Zimmerman said he could hardly believe his ears when at a labor union convention he heard members refer to "professional agitators" and "outside agitators."

"How many times have we not all been charged by anti-labor spokesmen with being 'outside agitators' who have come into 'a peaceful community' to organize the unorganized?" Zimmerman asked.

Randolph Replies

Tuvim told the convention that white and Negro workers can work together if the unions will urge and educate them to do so, just as has been done in his union, he averred.

Randolph, in gaining the floor again, let it be known that he will fight discrimination in the American Federation of Labor "as long as breath is in my body and the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters is affiliated with the organization."

He told the convention, "All of this talk about professional agitation with a view of intimidating anyone from exposing the discrimination in the trade unions will get nowhere. I don't care what you say about professional agitators. I will continue to denounce discrimination and condemn the auxiliary union on the floor of this convention as long as there is breath in my body and I am in this convention, and there is no delegate in this convention who can intimidate me."

Charges 'Red Herring'

The militant Pullman Porter president also charged McGowan with an attempt to "draw a red herring across the whole subject" by injecting the so-called social equality question into the discussion of the issue.

Randolph cautioned the convention, "If anyone thinks that Negroes are going to wait a thousand years in this country to get their rights, they have another thought coming. We are going to continue to fight with all our might to change this despicable and contemptible situation. Get as mad as you want to. I don't care how mad you get. I will continue to tell the truth."

He then told the convention that since a large number of delegates were afraid to express their true convictions, that the Sleeping Car Porters delegates would support the report of the committee.

President William Green stated that the AFL is not responsible for the organization of auxiliary unions, that the Federation is not an organization but a federation of organizations and each organization is clothed with autonomous authority to formulate, shape, and administer its own affairs.

He also reiterated that the American Federation of Labor is opposed to racial discrimination in the labor movement.

After President Green's remarks the convention unanimously voted for a reaffirmation of the declaration of the Boston convention of 1943.

The racial discussion, in some instances quite heated, was before the convention for about three hours, a much longer period of time than required in the consideration of each of the other resolutions.

And Votes to Reopen Door for Readmission of John L. Lewis

By JOHN T. MOUTOUX
Staff Correspondent

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 28.—After a day of bitter debate, participated in by William Green, president of the AFL, and other officials, the AFL Convention here rejected all resolutions on Negro discrimination submitted by A. Phillip Randolph and M. P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

On the other hand the convention approved recommendations of the Resolutions Committee, headed by John Frey and Matthew Woll, which submitted substitutes for all of the Randolph-Webster proposals. Other important action by the convention yesterday included:

¶ Re-opening the door for the readmission of John L. Lewis and the 600,000 members of the UMW into the AFL.

¶ Condemning the War Labor Board for its "unwarranted breach of faith" in refusing to recommend revision of the Little Steel wage formula and recommending that immediately after the convention that Green appoint a committee to call on President Roosevelt to ask him to issue an executive order "realistically" revising the Little Steel formula.

All the heated discussion on the Negro question occurred on the Randolph-Webster resolution calling on the convention to condemn and abolish the Jim Crow "auxiliary" unions established by some of the AFL international unions. These "auxiliary" unions are made up entirely of Negro members and are used to keep separate Negro and white members.

Toe Line or Get Out

Randolph accused the Boilermakers, the Machinists and the Electrical Workers unions in the AFL of resorting to these auxiliaries to deny Negroes the right to vote in conventions, to participate in negotiating for a contract, or to participate in governing the organization into which they pay dues.

"It is," he said, "trade union imperialism, a form of dual membership in the AFL, under which first class membership is given to white workers and second class membership to Negroes." He also called it "trade union fascism" and said its continuance is as dangerous to a democratic labor movement as political fascism is to a democratic government.

"The reason we have these auxiliaries is because certain powerful unions want them," Randolph continued. "There's no use in letting the Boilermakers, the Machinists, and the Electrical Workers get away with it."

Apparently referring to the fact that the AFL last year adopted a resolution opposing discrimination and calling on all AFL unions to accept all workers into membership "without discrimination of segregation," Randolph said:

"These unions (Boilermakers, Machinists, and Electrical Workers) should either toe the line or get out of the AFL."

Randolph told the delegates that if they voted for the committee report, instead of for his own resolution, it would be because they were afraid of bringing down upon themselves "the vengance of the high command of the AFL."

Randolph's speech was bitterly resented by some of the delegates, especially those from the unions he named.

Charles J. MacGowan, president of the Boilermakers, said that in all his years' attendance at AFL meetings he had never heard "a more offensive address." He referred also to Randolph's "arrogant and insolent statements."

"Some of us are getting a bit tired of being kicked around by professional agitators," MacGowan continued. "From some of his utterances, I wonder if he's in the right organization."

Leo G. Loring, president of the Tennessee Federation of Labor, also attacked Randolph.

"We don't have any race problem in our State," said Loring. "I don't have any complaint against unions taking in Negroes, but I object to the Pullman car porters telling us who to take in. We are the sole judges of our own membership.

"I think it's high time to put a stop to this professional agitation in the labor movement. The white people aren't raising these problems; it's the Negroes."

Israel Zimmerman, of the Sayre (Pa.) central labor body, said he could hardly believe his ears when at a labor union convention he heard members refer to "professional agitators" and "outside agitators."

"How many times have we not all been charged by anti-labor spokesmen with being 'outside agitators' who have come into 'a peaceful community' to organize the unorganized?" Zimmerman asked.

Won't Wait

Replying to MacGowan, Randolph said: "Now if any one thinks that Negroes are going to wait a thousand years to get their rights they have another thought coming."

"Get as mad as you like, but the Negroes are going to fight for their rights no matter how mad you get."

Frey, secretary of the Resolutions Committee, complained that those who condemned the AFL for failing to solve the Negro problem "voiced no expression of approval for what the AFL has done for Negroes."

The convention's action earlier in the day in approving a Resolutions Committee report seeking the readmission of Lewis and the UMW into the AFL was taken over the strong objection of John Darchiando, newly elected president of the AFL's Progressive Dine Workers.

Marchiando charged that Lewis' form of government in the UMW is no different from Hitler's.

In urging adoption of the committee report, Green admitted he had been bitterly attacked by Lewis in the past, "but thank God I am willing to look above it."

He said he was "willing to forget it all, lay it aside, forget it, and bring them back on a fair and just basis.

"If it becomes necessary for me to leave the AFL in order to establish unity, I am willing to go."

The committee report was adopted unanimously.

Randolph Fights Negroes Voice in AFL Jimcro

NEW ORLEANS — The fight against racial discrimination in the AFL is expected to come to a head as a result of resolutions submitted by A. Phillip Randolph and M. P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters; Frank Martel, of the Detroit Federation of Labor; and a memorandum on discrimination submitted by sec.-treas. Richard W. Smith of the joint council of Dining Car Employees and Hotel Employees Alliance.

Resolutions, according to the AFL constitution, are first submitted to a resolutions committee, but regardless of the committee's attitude, the convention delegates have a chance to vote on each measure.

The resolutions call for investigation of armed forces jimcro, condemnation of "auxiliary" (jimcro) unions, support of anti-lynch law, endorsement of FEPC, and enforcement of the Supreme Court decision banning "white primaries."

Smith's memorandum pointed out that heretofore discrimination against Negroes was considered only as a moral issue in the AFL convention. "Beyond a reasonable doubt," he wrote, "the average Negro worker is pro-CIO in sentiments." The pressure of the CIO, he continued, demands more liberal AFL policies, such as a no strike pledge, repeal of the Smith-Connally act, development of "socialized medicine" bill, expansion of social security, and opposition to compulsory military training.

35k-1944

AFL

Smacks Of Sabotage

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

Car Union on Coast To Take in Negroes

Times — New York, Thu
8-21-44

By The Associated Press.

LOS ANGELES, Aug. 20—Members of the AFL Amalgamated Association of Street and Electric Railway Employes here have voted to accept Negroes into their union and work with them on street cars and buses of the Los Angeles Railway Company.

D. D. McClurg, union president, stated at meetings of the members that the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee had directed that Negroes be employed and that the union's executive committee considered this to be a Government order.

Boilermakers Jim Crow Aired In Eastern Court

Defender — Chicago, Ill.
6-10-44

PROVIDENCE, R. I. — Negro workers segregated into so-called "auxiliaries" of the International Boilermakers Union, AFL, are accorded considerably less rights and privileges than those enjoyed by their white fellow workers, according to testimony given in Superior court last week when six Negro workers of Walsh-Kaiser shipyards sought a permanent injunction against racial discrimination in the AFL Boilermaker's union.

The fight in behalf of 400 members of Local 308 who have declined to form an auxiliary union on the basis that the auxiliary is illegal and a mere "paper organization set up to deprive them of equal treatment" is being carried on by Thurgood Marshall, attorney for the NAACP.

Under direct fire from Marshall, William J. Buckley, international vice president of the Boilermaker's union, admitted that members of a Negro auxiliary would have no grievance committee of their own, but instead would have one member on a general grievance committee for white and Negro workers on any particular job. 6-10-44

Marshall also brought out that any Negro member of an auxiliary who wished to change to a higher job classification, his job application must first go to the "regular" local made up of white workers and then to the International headquarters in Kansas, Kans., for approval.

Meanwhile Charles M. McGowan, chairman of the executive committee of the International Boilermaker's Iron Ship Builder Wildersand Helpers of America, AFL, met in Washington, Tuesday with the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices to discuss the possibilities of bringing about some compliance with the committee's directives issued last November.

The hearings followed complaints filed with the committee after several hundred Negro shipyard workers had been fired for refusing to pay dues to Auxiliary Boilermaker's locals. The dismissals were under terms of a "Master Agreement" between the union and West Coast shipyards under which all workers under Boilermaker's jurisdiction must become and remain members of the union before they can work. The Negroes charged that the auxiliary locals were discriminatory. 6-10-44

The dispute began when a local of Providence defied the International's tacit on open policy of refusing full membership to Negroes and accepted Negro members in the union rather than in an auxiliary. International officials of the union sought to void the membership of the Negro workers and declared them ineligible to vote in an election of officers last December. This interference was objected to by white and Negro members of the union and an attempt was made to effect a satisfactory settlement of the issue.

Failing, the Negro workers appealed to the courts for a classification of their status. Judge Churchill of Superior court on January 7, 1944 ruled that "the conduct at the election of December 14, 1943, and that the by-laws and constitution of the so-called "auxiliary," insofar as they discriminate between members of the colored race Negroes, and persons of all other races, as compared with the by-laws and constitution of the Brotherhood are illegal and void." 6-10-44

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers contend that at their 17th Quadriennal convention in Kansas City in February they made adjustments in their whole approach to the matter of Negro membership and it is on this basis they hope to have set aside the decision delivered by Judge Churchill.

RACIAL BIAS CHARGED

Times — New York, Thu
Seafarers Union Officials Must Appear Before Committee
10-6-44

The Seafarers International Union, an American Federation of Labor affiliate, was charged yesterday with a series of acts of racial discrimination dating back over th elast twelve months, mostly concerning the union's alleged refusal to ship Negro personnel with white crews.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, which issued the complaint, ordered representatives of the union to appear before a subcommittee, which will be headed by Malcolm Ross, chairman of the committee, at 10 A. M. next Tuesday at the Bar Association Building, 42 West Forty-fourth Street. 10-5-44

According to Edward Lawson, regional director of the committee, while most of the charges concern discrimination against Negroes, the union also is alleged to have refused to permit white personnel to serve with Negro mess crews.

Say AFL Opposes Permanent FEPC

Call — Chicago, Ill.
WASHINGTON, D. C. (INPA) — Congressional action to establish a permanent Fair Employment Practice Committee is endangered by American Federation of Labor opposition to the proposed prohibition against discrimination by unions, according to a report appearing in the newspaper PM last week.

The story says AFL hostility to any government control of unions.

The statement, which was filed with the Senate Committee by W. C. Hushing, legislative representative of the AFL, quoted the report by the Executive Council of the AFL at its 1943 convention.

Questioned about the statement, 11-10-44

...ushing told PM the pending bill "does not conform" to the AFL convention action. He said the Federation might try to have the bill modified, and probably would discuss the question at its convention this month.

First open hint of AFL opposition, says PM, came during the Howard University conference on Postwar Industrial Outlook for Negroes, when Boris Shiskin, AFL member of the present FEPC warned that labor would oppose any regulation of unions, even to prevent discrimination.

Shiskin told the conference that legislation prohibiting racial and religious discrimination -- the purpose of the permanent FEPC bill—by unions would open the door to much broader regulation of unions and labor spokesman could not support it. His views were attacked from the floor of the conference during the discussion period following his speech by Judge William Hastie and others.

The bill for a permanent FEPC has the wholehearted support of many labor, religious, and liberal organizations including the CIO and several AFL unions. Supporters of the measure are alarmed by the AFL's attitude.

Negroes Admitted To Painters' Union

Journal & Guide
Norfolk, Va.

PORTSMOUTH—For the first time in the history of labor organization in this area, more than 35 Negroes have been admitted as active members, working under the same charter, of Painters Local 474; American Federation of Labor.

This action marks another milestone in the efforts of skilled Negro mechanics to gain recognition in organized unions throughout the country.

"If a depression follows this war as it did the last, the Negro skilled mechanic will find himself facing economic disaster, unless he has the backing of strong labor organization," stated J. W. Robinson, active member of the local.

In addition to being bona-fide

Whites Oust Race Heads, Take Union

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.
11-11-44

NEW ORLEANS — (ANP) — Charging that white labor racketeers have seized their union, 700 dissatisfied Negro members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, AFL Local 270, expressed their determination to stage a mass walkout at the Delta shipyards here last week during a fiery mass meeting.

Number one obnoxious character among the white labor gangsters, according to various members, is Manny Moore, recently discharged from the Navy. Moore has conspired to secure the presidency, has ousted Negro union officials, and has replaced them with a new set of officers, mostly white.

Irate Negro members also charge accounting of union funds has become an irritable issue. They claim that Manny Moore, the newly appointed president, has requested the Delta company to fire several members of the union for the non-payment of dues in accordance with the union's contract with the company. The Delta shipyards complied, it is learned.

Those who were fired are reported to have vainly sought help and an ultimatum was issued to union members. White members have not been fired for the non-payment of union dues and those who have supported the Manny Moore program have not been threatened, some ousted official claim.

Carroll Bolling, prominent Negro labor leader and former secretary-treasurer of Local 270, and J. D. Wilson, a union member and Delta employe, have placed Moore under two separate peace bonds because of alleged threats to 'wipe out" any union member who opposes his dictatorship.

According to Bolling, 90 per cent of the members of Local 270 are Negroes.

Green Hits Unions' Jimcrow But Says AFL Can Do Nothing

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.
9-19-44

CLEVELAND, Sept. 18.—AFL President William Green told the AFL Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters here yesterday that he "disapproves" of discrimination in AFL affiliates but that the Federation lacks power to abolish it.

Speaking at a mass meeting opening the Brotherhood's fourth biennial convention, Green denounced what he called the "tiny minority" of AFL unions that still practice discrimination.

Addressing an audience of 5,000, mainly Negroes, he said:

"I disapprove just as heartily of such discrimination as any of you."

"I want you to understand that the American Federation of Labor has no more power to force affiliated unions to act than our federal government has to order a southern state to abolish Jim-crow cars." 9-19-44

AFL unions that discriminate include virtually all railroad union affiliates, the Brotherhood of Boilermakers, and many locals of the American Federation of Musicians.

3-POINT PROGRAM

Green proposed a three-point general program to break down barriers to Negro progress, as follows:

1. A good job at good pay for every American willing and able to work so that he can provide a decent living commensurate with American standards for himself and his family.

2. The right to vote for every qualified American citizen.

3. Adequate education opportunities for children of all American families, with Federal aid supplementing the funds of the few states which cannot carry the burden alone. 9-19-44

Green praised the heroism of Negroes on the battlefronts and their industrial skill on the home front, stating that "today the great majority of the American people are on the side of the Negro in his efforts to make a decent life for himself and his children in this country."

Green said there were now more than 3,000,000 Negro members of AFL unions. He promised that the Federation would continue its fight against the polltax until its abolition is won but said it stood No. 1 **"on the list of vital postwar reforms in America."** 9-19-44

A. Philip Randolph, Brotherhood president, called for a fight to guarantee a democratic peace after victory. This means, he said, extension of the principles of the democratic system and a solution of the problem of employment.

Milton P. Webster, first international vice president, called upon white people "to bring the issue of racialism out into the open."

Bernard V. McGroarty, executive director of Labor's Joint Committee for Political Action here, welcomed the 300 Brotherhood delegates and their Women's Auxiliary convention, which is being held concurrently.

AFL CHIEF HUNTS CAUSE OF RIFT IN LEATHER UNIONS

Daily Tribune
Chicago Ill.
8-15-44

Judge Quilici Signs Bonds for Two.

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, is investigating the affairs of the International Ladies Handbag, Luggage, Belt and Novelty Workers union, as a result of the secession of four Chicago locals of the union, it was disclosed yesterday.

He will report to the executive committee of the AFL in the Drake hotel Aug. 21, at which time the committee will consider a request by the four Chicago locals that they be permitted to form a new international, or be affiliated with the AFL as federal unions.

Attempt to Take Over Fails.

The rift in the international broke into the news last week when Norman Zuckowsky, an organizer for the international, accompanied by a Negro bodyguard, Artell Lorenzo Shelton, attempted to take over two of the four Chicago locals, and sought to instigate wildcat strikes in war plants where union members are employed. Both Zuckowsky and Shelton wound up in jail, after Shelton committed the tactical error of swinging on Sgt. Harold Enger of the police labor detail, in the offices of the Chicago Novelty Workers union, 209 W. Jackson blvd.

But they didn't stay in jail long. Municipal Judge George L. Quilici appeared at Central police station, accompanied by Alfred Kamin, attorney for the two men, and berated police for keeping them in jail, demanding that they be released.

Both men were booked "hold for Sgt. Enger." Deputy Chief of Detectives John Warren told Judge Quilicy he couldn't release the two men on bond until they were booked on a definite charge, and that Sgt. Enger had left the station.

Charges Filed Against Two.

Finally, however, after Quilici threatened to hold court on the spot, unless the two men were booked, Warren filed charges of disorderly conduct against them. This made them admissible to bail, and Quilici signed bonds for both men, and specified that they should appear in his court today. Lawyers said yesterday that it is an irregular procedure for a Municipal judge to assign cases to himself, particularly after he has signed bonds for the defendants who are to appear before him. 8-15-44

Kamin, who accompanied Quilici to police headquarters, is a former secretary of the Chicago chapter of the National Lawyers guild, often described as a Communist front organization. Quilici is a former president of the Chicago chapter.

The dispute in the leather workers' union will be aired before Judge William H. Holly in federal District court Friday. The international has filed suit to enjoin the locals from destroying records or disbursing funds.

Checkoff Causes Dispute.

Sam Laderman, former secretary and treasurer of the international, now head of two Chicago locals, the Chicago Luggage Workers' union and the Chicago Novelty Workers' union, said the dispute arose when the international sought to have firms with which the locals have contracts transmit checkoff dues directly to the international, thus destroying the autonomy of the locals.

The other two Chicago locals are the Chicago Belt Workers' union and the Chicago Pocketbook Workers' union. All four locals withdrew from the international last May 29. Laderman was ousted as secretary and treasurer of the international a few days later, after a blank check which he had signed for payment of per capita dues to the AFL, had been used to withdraw $75,000 from the union treasury. Whereabouts of this $75,000 is still a mystery, Laderman said yesterday.

Lt. George Barnes of the police labor detail, who was absent on vacation when Zuckowsky and Shelton were arrested, returned to the city yesterday and said he will attend the trial of the two men in Judge Quilici's court today.

Equity Rebuffs AFL Snipers At Robeson

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y. 1-13-44

An attempt by certain elements in the AFL to penalize Paul Robeson for accepting honorary membership in a CIO union was flatly rejected by Actors Equity, an AFL affiliate of which the noted Negro singer and actor is a member.

Equity's council acted on a letter from the Greater New York Central Trades and Labor Council, demanding that Robeson be forced to resign honorary membership conferred upon him by the CIO's State County and Municipal Employes and that which he has long held in the National Maritime Union.

Paul Dulzell, executive secretary of Equity was directed to send the following reply:

"We are requested to inform you that it is our understanding that Mr. Paul Robeson is not employed in any other field of activity except as an actor and singer in our jurisdiction, and such being the case there is no action that we can properly take in the matter. 1-13-44

"You are, of course, aware, as we are, that there are many members of unions affiliated both with the AFL and the CIO who look forward to the day when the interests of both will find a common meeting ground and the house of labor will be reunited."

The reply was sent to James Quinn, secretary of AFL's central body. The demands for action against Robeson originated with the AFL's sanitation employes locals and Joseph P. Ryan, president for life of the International Longshoremen's Association.

his honorary membership in a Congress of Industrial Organizations union.

Paul Dulzell, executive secretary of Equity, sent the following letter last night to James Quinn, executive secretary of the CTLC, after a council meeting of the actors' union:

"We are requested to inform you that it is our understanding that Mr. Robeson is not employed in any other field of activity except as an actor and singer in our jurisdiction, and such being the case there is no action that we can properly take in the matter."

It added: "you are, of course, aware, as we are, that there are many members of unions affiliated with the AFL and the CIO who look forward to the day when the interests of both will find a common meeting ground and the house of labor will be reunited." 1-12-44

Alfred Harding, editor of Equity's magazine, explained that had the union chosen to suspend Mr. Robeson, who is starred in "Othello," the actor would have been barred from appearing in the movies and radio as well. Asked if the AFL executive council, which meets in Miami on Jan. 17, could take further action on the matter, Mr. Harding said that Equity was "an autonomous body," whose decisions could more or less be considered as final.

A. Philip Randolph

EQUITY REJECTS CALL TO PENALIZE ROBESON

Times-New York, N.Y.

Council Suggests Many Hope for AFL-CIO Reunion

1-12-44

Actors Equity Association rejected yesterday afternoon a request by the Central Trades and Labor Council, central body of American Federation of Labor unions here, that it take "appropriate action" against Paul Robeson, Negro actor and singer, for

Green Defies Memphis Boss

PM-New York, N.Y. 3-3-44

By Arnold Beichman

PM Exclusive

By order of William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, the State AFL of Tennessee is arranging a special meeting to be addressed by A. Philip Randolph, president of the Sleeping Car Porters Brotherhood, AFL, who last November was barred by E. H. Crump, Memphis Democratic boss, from addressing a mass meeting at a Negro church.

The meeting will be held some time early in April, according to George Gooch, AFL organizer in the South, who was reached at his headquarters at Atlanta, Ga.

Randolph, perennial critic of the "lily-white" segregation policy followed by some AFL unions, had been scheduled to address several thousand people at a Negro church in Memphis. His speech, on the Negro in war and peace, with particular emphasis on the poll-tax, had been widely advertised.

Without mentioning him by name, Crump, in a public statement a day later, characterized Randolph as a "blatherskite" and "demagogue" who should not "be permitted to interfere with the friendly relations between the races that new exist in Memphis." 3-5-44

Randolph, however, was permitted to address two small meetings called by his own union and the Southern Tenant Farmers Union. The Negro leader immediately notified Green of the treatment received from the Crump machine.

Hats Off!

PM-New York, N.Y. 3-3-44

PM takes its hat off to William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor, for his defiance of Boss Ed Crump of Tennessee whose henchmen barred A. Philip Randolph from addressing a mass meeting in that city. Green has asked the Tennessee State AFL to convene in Memphis sometime soon and to invite Randolph as speaker. We have disagreed with William Green in the past on a number of issues and we have been particularly critical of the Jim-Crow policy practiced by some AFL unions. But in this specific case, Green has shown courage in challenging a violation of free speech by Boss Crump.

TOWARD FREEDOM

Daily Worker, New York, N.Y.

AFL and the Poll Tax

IF Philip Pearl's evasive and confusing article on the anti-poll tax bill (AFL newsletter, April 18), reflects, as is customary, the Hutcheson-Woll point of view, then AFL progressives had better act quickly to prevent new legislative sabotage by the dominant leadership of their Executive Council. 5-1-44

Although admitting that "it is not very intelligent nor helpful." the insolence to write as if the Negro question in poll tax involves just another America is rapidly approaching a point where criti-cal decisions must be made," and recognizing the coming Sen-triotic groups for vigorous ate debate on the gle to pass the anti-poll tax bill and thus is now the focal point of the struggle, Pearl assumes an attitude of detached neutrality, declaring "it is not our purpose here to pass sweeping judgments one way or another."

"temptation to condemn," because which we fight, turbing if it reflected ignorance for a "process of alone. The AFL, for which he may appear slow writes, now has urgent need truly and **rebellious to understand** the Negro question mphasis!)," but and the great stakes of labor and "is the only way the nation in its progressive solution.

serting that "in Even more serious, however, is tion for the Ne- the possibility that Pearl's article st first try to un- is deliberately confusing and that essor" Pearl pro- its purpose is to lay down an ideo- weird assortment lugical smoke-screen behind which y in alleged "ex- his Hutcheson-Woll mentors may knife the anti-poll tax bill as they ejudiced," Pearl have so many other progressive leg- y feel a secret islative measures.

their unjust Let AFL progressives be on the egro. He appears alert to uphold and carry forward t that anti-Negro their Union's historic fight against berately fostered the poll tax. Let there by no be- d by such forces hind-the-scenes "deal" to immobil- and the interests ize the AFL forces from effective exploit the white participation in a struggle so vital and to entrench to organized labor and our embattled nation.

ocratic goals for which vote in the Senate, this calm and Pearl asks merely for a serene spokesman of Hutcheson and education," which "may a Woll resists what he calls the to **white reformers** and (my emphasis), "is the only way the nation in its progressive solution.

Whereas all the world knows that the poll tax laws disfranchise more millions of white than Negro citizens, hinder the growth of a vigorous labor movement in the South, and strengthen the deadly coalition of reactionaries and defeatists who now threaten to disrupt the war effort of the whole nation, Pearl has the insolence to write as if the Negro question in poll tax involves just another discrimination

Scale Of Pay Raises To Become Retroactive

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
1-30-44

CHICAGO — (ANP) — Marking the first time that dining car workers' organizations have been a party to a national contract with other standard AFL organizations and the railroads, the cooks and waiters, represented by the Joint Council of Dining Car employes, will receive approximately $5,000, 000 in pay increases, retreactive to Feb 1, 1943, according to an official announcement this week.

The wage increases represent a 16-month period of negotiation carried on by the joint council with the railroads, and came to a successful conclusion on January 17 when the agreement was signed by the national office of the AFL dining car workers. 1-30-44

Organizations which are not party to this national agreement, such as the CIO and independent organizations, will be forced to enter separate negiotations on wage increases with each carrier where they represent workers, an official of the Joint council declared.

Retractive back pay will be made to the employes on the following basis.

All wages less than 47 cents per hour will be increased 10 cents per hour; those receiving 47 cents and less than 80 cents will be raised 7 increased 9 cents per hour; those receiving 57 cents and less than 70 cents will be given an 8 cent raise; those receiving 70 cents and less than 80 cents will be raised 7 cents per hour; those receiving 80 cents and less than 90 cents per hour will be increased 6 cents those receiving 90 cents and less than 97 cents will receive a 5 cent per hour raise; those receiving 97 cents and over per hour will be in-

(Continued on Page 6, Col. 2)

creased 4 cents on the hour.

Employes who received 10 cents per hour back pay, in accordance with regular increases which began December 27, will receive 11 cents per hour under the new agreement, while those who received 9 cents per hour back pay will be given 10 cents per hour and 9 cents per hour for all other workers. 1-30-44

The increase dating from Dec. 27 will continue indefinitely, a union official said, and will amount to $5,000,00 for the workers.

AFL To Qualify

Endorsement Of Permanent FEPC

CIO Comes Out Unequivocably For Proposal

BY ERNEST JOHNSON

WASHINGTON —(ANP)—While organized labor is in accord with the "general objectives" of the bill to set up a permanent FEPC, the American Federation of Labor is going to qualify its endorsement when its spokesman appears before the house labor committee to testify, this correspondent learned Saturday.

Friday James B Carey, secretary-treasurer of the Congress of Industrial Organizations, declared that "America could not afford to fail to utilize all the skills and strength of every American workman to win the war." He contended further "for the post-war period that if America refuses to rid itself completely of the blind prejudice that denies people who are 'different' a fair deal we undermine the strength of our country and threaten the hard-won gains achieved during the last few years."

CALLS IT STUPIDITY

Carey maintained also that not to adopt such a policy of non-discrimination and its machinery would be "economic stupidity" since the result would be to throw millions upon relief roles, which untimately would lead to poor health standards, juvenile delinquency and slum dwelling.

"Seniority and ability are the yardsticks as to whether he holds the job or gets another," he declared, "not the fact that his skin is dark, or his father came from the old century, or that his folks are Catholics and Jews."

Citing the plight of workers of Spanish-speaking persons of which there are nearly 2.5 million in this country, Erneste Galarzo, director of the labor division of the Pan-American Union, declared that "economic discrimination against workers in this group has long been practiced in certain parts of this country," especially against Mexicans in the southwest area.

TAKE FOUR FORMS

"Difficult, exhausting and often dangerous work has been the only means of livelihood open to these people," he said. Such discriminations, he added, have taken four forms: 1. refusal of employment; 2. withholding of opportunity for trailing for better jobs; 3. refusal of upgrading on the basis of seniority and ability; 4. wage differentials.

Galarzo offered two recommendations. He asked guarantees to make the terms of the bill applicable to all Mexicans in the United States regardless of nationality; and that all employers using Mexican labor or receiving aid of any kind from federal agencies for recruiting workers be made subject thereto. 6-4-44

Lewis Hines, legislative representative for the AFL is expected to testify this week. Last week, however, he told the ANP that the fedration is "opposed to that portion of the bill which places unions under the jurisdiction of a commission." He said the organization is "in sympathy" with the purposes of bill, "which is to do something to assist the Negro in his economic struggle."

Hines said, "We're not going to place ourselves under a commission that will come in and harrass our unions." The 'well-informed Negro,' he added, is against this also.

Butchers Back Negro Rights

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

ST. LOUIS, June 19—The issue of equal rights for Negroes stirred the liveliest interest at the 16th convention of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen of the AFL, which just ended here.

Progressives among the 418 degates of the 120,000 strong AFL union, raised the issue of a Negro vice-president. A sharp fight took place on the floor, but the resolution failed to pass by a close margin. 6-20-44

Later when one of the vice-presidents announced he would retire, progressives put forward the candidacy of William Tate, a Negro, while administration forces sponsored Harry Poole. On a roll-call vote Poole was elected by 251 to 153 for Tate. There were only 14 Negro delegates at the convention.

The administration's candidate had the bloc of votes of 76 international representatives and 11 officers to start with. The delegation of Local 623, New York, headed by manager Joseph Cohen, led the fight on the issue. 6-20-44

A resolution was passed unanimously instructing officers not to hold conventions in any city where hotels discriminate. It was prompted by Jim Crow policies that delegates found in St. Louis hotels.

The resolution also directed that a letter be sent to every international affiliate of the AFL urging a similar position. Convention promotion bureaus are to be similarly notified.

AFL Local Saves Jobs Of 34 Negro Women

Daily Worker, N.Y., N.Y. July 11 - 1944

An AFL Federal union blocked an attempt by Pinaud Cosmetics Co. to fire 35 Negro women employes in a discriminatory action which violated seniority principles, Ferdinand Smith, chairman of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, revealed yesterday. 7-11-44

The Pinaud management had segregated Negro women workers on the nigth shift and when they protested the segregation and poor working conditions sought to discharge the entire shift, Smith said.

He praised Benjamin Pross, business manager of the Cosmetic Soap and Perfumery Workers Local 20646 for assuring the Negro women full union protection. Management did discontinue the night shift but seniority rules were enforced and 17 white women who had been hired in preparation for the dismissal of the Negro workers were discharged. The union offered to place in other shops 12 Negro women who lacked seniority and assured them that when Pinaud hires they will be given preferential consideration. Daily Worker 7-11-44 N.Y.

The Negro Labor Victory Committee came into the situation when workers brought their grievances to them, soliciting cooperation.

State AFL Urges End of Race Bias

PM - New York, N.Y.
8-25-44

Staff Correspondence

SYRACUSE, N. Y., Aug. 24.—For the first time in its 81 years, the New York State Federation of Labor has elected a Negro to an official post. He is Thomas G. Young, of the building services employes union, of New York, who was chosen a member of the legislative committee, the Federation's most important committee.

Young's election followed a unanimously adopted resolution calling upon all unions affiliated with the federation to eliminate all discrimination where it exists.

Chief among other the resolutions adopted were measures endorsing the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Social Security bill and the Kilgore bill, and one demanding a roll-back of prices to the September, 1942, level or a revision of the Little Steel Formula.

AFL GROUP MOVES TO END HOTEL DISCRIMINATION

Tribune—Washington D.C.
6-12-44

Because of "exceeding embarrassment as a result of the inability of upstanding colored representatives" of the Almalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North Amercia to secure reasonable hotel accomodations in

8-12-44

June 12. ...her organi... ...y take simi... ...solution that it was among the ...ructs the of... ...first international unions affili... ...metropoli... ...ated with the AFL to admit col... States and ...ored workers on equal terms with ...tion of the ...all others races. It declares that ...t. Louis on ...he "colored people of the United ...cities where the organization has ...held conventions, the union has ...adopted a resolution empowering ...its executive board to transfer ...any convention to some other city ...whenever it is discovered that ho... ...el accomodations for all delegates ...cannot be obtained on equal terms with the AFL and other ...irrespectivve of creed, color organizations suggesting they tak... ...nationality, according to a union... ...announcement last week. ...ficers to write every me... ...The resolution instructs the of-...tan city in the United Stat... ...ficers of the union to write every...advise them of the action ...international union connected...convention held in St. Lo...

35k-1944

AFL

SHIPYARD UNION JIM CROW HIT BY COAST COURT

AFL Ordered To Admit Negroes To Full Membership

2-26-44

SAN RAFAEL, Calif.—Superior Court Judge Edward I. Butler ruled this week against the AFL Boilermakers' Union in the case to determine whether it could compel Negroes to join Jim Crow auxiliary lodges in order to work in West Coast shipyards.

Judge Butler enjoined the Boilermakers from attempting to have any Negro fired for failure to join the auxiliary lodges.

In addition, granting the plea of Attorneys Anderson and Resner, counsel for Negro workers in the case, the court ordered the Boilermakers' Union to admit Negroes into regular membership.

The court also enjoined the Marinship Corporation from firing employes who refused to join the auxiliary, and from refusing to hire prospective employes, not members of the auxiliary.

Commenting on the decision, Attorney Resner predicted it would have far-reaching consequences throughout the nation as precedent for Negroes' legal fight for job equality.

2-26-44

The Boilermakers have appealed the decision to the State Supreme Court.

2-26-44

Judge Butler's decision came after the Kansas City convention of the AFL union refused to grant regular membership to Negro shipyard workers despite a request by President Roosevelt and the Fair Employment Practice Committee.

Refusal by the union convention defied an order by the FEPC, but through AFL influence the committee recently refused to certify the case to the President pending further developments in the fight to win full union membership for Negro shipyard workers.

Chicago Defender

New Orleans Convention Oppose Legal Curb On Union Bias

Chicago, Ill.

11-25-44

By JOHN LeFLORE

(Defender Staff Correspondent)

NEW ORLEANS, La.—On the eve of its 64th annual convention here, the American Federation of Labor this week urged a union program to eliminate job discrimination in a post-war America.

But in the very same executive council report to the parley which opened Monday, the AFL for the first time comes out into the open in opposition to a permanent Fair Employment Practices committee.

Its stand approved by the 15-man council is based solely on the provision in the permanent FEPC bill which would prohibit unions as well as employers from discriminating against Negro workers.

The AFL top leadership claimed that "great progress" has been made in wiping out union color bars, expressed confidence that the objective of labor racial democracy would be reached without government laws, and termed the permanent FEPC bill "objectonable and most dangerous."

Lauds FEPC Work

At the same time the executive council report to the convention lauded the work to date for the FEPC. It recommended endorsement of the work of the body and pointed out that two AFL representatives, Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and Boris Shishkin, research director, are FEPC members.

The council conceded that racial equality in hiring is a much needed program and one that will "serve the best interests of labor and of the American people as a whole."

"In the days of transition from war to peace," the report stated, "the American Federation of Labor will have a special responsibility to extend the work it has done in the past in eliminating prejudices to the end that industrial equality of all men be firmly established in every part of the United States.

"In these times there exists an intensified need for systematic and positive educational efforts to remove handicaps and barriers of race or color in industrial employment, assuring full equality of economic opportunity to all Americans," continued the recommendations of the council.

11-25-44

Object to FEPC

Commenting on FEPC, the AFL officials declared that "government regulations of free and voluntary associations of workers is inimical to the basic right of freedom of association."

Major objection to three bills pending in the House Labor committee for the establishment of a permanent Fair Employment committee was cited as subsection C of Section 3, which reads as follows:

"It shall be an unfair employment practice for an employer or labor union within the scope of this act to discharge, expel, or otherwise discriminate against any person because he has opposed any practices forbidden by this act or because he has filed a charge, testified, or assisted in any proceeding under this act."

FEPC 'Restricts' Unions

This passage, according to the council, subjects labor unions to "considerable harassment as a result of these provisions and particularly because of their ambiguous nature."

Such restrictions are not necessary, intimates the council, because "the right to union membership without discrimination because of race, creed, or color, or sex, is a basic tenet irrevocably established by the American Federation of Labor."

11-25-44

Complete acceptance of this principle of equality "may be reached in the near future," the AFL optimistically predicts. "Exercise of the prerogative of self-government of our member unions," is responsible for the "great progress of the past year," the report added.

"The American Federation of Labor has been in the past, and is today unalterably opposed to any form of discrimination because of race, creed, or color, or sex," said the council, but "governmental controls, interfering with the self-government of labor organizations must not be permitted."

Gangs Grab Union, Laborites Declare

Amsterdam News

New York, N.Y.

Negro Officials Replaced By Whites In Charge At New Orleans Meeting

11-25-44

NEW ORLEANS. — Charging that white labor racketeers have seized their union, 700 dissatisfied Negro members of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Warehousemen and Helpers, AFL Local 270, expressed their determination to stage a mass walkout at the Delta shipyards here last week during a fiery mass meeting.

Number one obnoxious character among the white labor gangsters, according to various members, is Manny Moore, recently discharged from the Navy. Moore has conspired to secure the presidency, has ousted Negro union officials, and has replaced them with a new set of officers, mostly white.

Irate Negro members claim that Manny Moore, the newly appointed president, has requested the Delta company to fire several members of the union for the non-payment of dues in accordance with the union's contract with the company. The Delta shipyards complied, it is learned.

Jim Crow Boilermaker Union Challenged in R.I.

AFRO-American Balt. Md.

5-27-44

By STAFF CORRESPONDENT

PROVIDENCE, R.I.—The hearing in the suit for a permanent injunction against racial discrimination by the International Boilermakers' Union (AFL) entered its fourth day in Superior Court here Tuesday before Judge Patrick P. Curran.

William J. Buckley, the union's international representative, testified on Monday that at the recent convention in Kansas City the union recognized the authority of the locals over the jim-crow auxiliaries which colored workers call illegal.

5-27-44

He added, however, that the convention agreed to allow auxiliaries to send delegates to the next convention. The hearing was continued on Wednesday.

Testimony that a clerk in the local union office covered with a blotter the top part of an application blank which he signed was offered by Gerald R. Hill last Wednesday.

The "covered" part of the application, Hill testified, contained printed matter showing that he was joining an "auxiliary" instead of the regular union.

Says He Was Tricked

It was not until he received his dues book and receipt from international headquarters that he was aware that something had been "put over" on him, he declared.

Buckley, under questioning by Thurgood Marshall of New York, admitted excluding colored workers from a meeting of Local 308 in December and that ballots of colored workers were marked "C" and segregated in the union's election of officers.

Privileges Less

The "C," he said, stood for "contested." Marshall's interrogation also brought out that rights and privileges accorded members of an auxiliary would be considerably less than those accorded white members of Local 308 or any other "regular" local.

Edward Dudley of New York and Joseph LeCount, local attorney, are assisting Mr. Marshall. They represent six colored workers at Walsh-Kaiser shipyard who have been excluded from membership in the local union.

Won't Take Stand for Equality

Call—Kansas City, Mo.

12-8-44

Call Leader 'Professional Agitator'

NEW ORLEANS. — (ANP) — Resolutions submitted by A. Philip Randolph and Milton P. Webster of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters asking an end to race discrimination were rejected by the American Federation of Labor convention here Tuesday after a day of bitter debate during which Randolph was described as a "professional agitator."

The rejected resolutions called on the convention to condemn and abolish jim crow auxiliaries made up entirely of Negro members who do not enjoy the same status as whites although they pay dues. This is the practice of certain AFL unions and has resulted in strife and legal action in some war plant areas.

12-8-44

Randolph Is Fiery

The Boilermakers, Machinists and Electrical Workers unions were specifically accused by Randolph in a fiery speech of using those subsidiaries to deny Negroes the right to vote in conventions, help negotiate contracts or to aid in governing the organization. They merely pay dues and are allowed to work by special permits.

"This is trade union imperialism," he declared. "It is a form of dual membership under which first class privileges are given to white workers and second class membership to Negroes under AFL sanction. This is trade union fascism and its continuation is as dangerous to a democratic trade union movement as political fascism is to a democratic government.

"The reason we have those auxilaries is because certain powerful unions want them. There's no use in letting the Boilermakers, the Machinists and the Electrical Workers unions get away with it."

'Do Right Or Get Out'

After reminding the convention of the vengeance of the AFL high command," he told the convention, "We don't have any race problem in our state," Loring declared. "I don't have any complaint that last year the AFL adopted a resolution calling on all AFL unions to accept all workers in unions cited rose to the floor to "Some of us are getting a bit to membership without discrimination or segregation. Randolph's statements were both offensive and insolent."

Leo G. Loring, president of the Tennessee Federation of Labor, who apparently sought an opportunity to "get even" for Randolph's appearance in Memphis some time ago with the backing of President William Green al-

Randolph was attacking Negroes

Boilermaker Hits Back

Also attacking

organization.

President Charles J. MacGowan

"From some of his utterances, I wonder if he's in the right line or get out of the AFL."

"Those unions should either

asserted: "Those unions should either be kicked around by the delegates rejected the

sumed his seat.

I object to the Pullman car porters telling us who to take in. We are the acid judges of our own membership.

"I think it's high time to put a stop to this professional agitation in the labor movement. The white people aren't raising those problems; it's the Negroes."

To Randolph's Defense

Rising to Randolph's defense was Israel Zimmerman of the Sayre, Pa., Central Trades council who said he could hardly believe his ears when at a labor union convention he heard members refer to "professional agitators" and "outside agitators."

"How many times have we not all been charged by anti-labor spokesmen with being 'outside agitators' who have come into a peaceful community to organize the unorganized?" he asked.

"If anyone thinks that Negroes are going to wait a thousand years to get their rights they have another thought coming. Get as mad as you like, but the Negroes are going to fight for their rights no matter how mad you get."

Frey, secretary of the resolutions committee, complained that those condemned the AFL for failing to solve the race problem "voiced no expression of approval for what the AFL has done for Negroes."

Amalgamated Biennial Convention held in Chicago during the week of May 15. Mr. Borders is contributing much to organized labor and the progress of both Negroes and whites in the Needle Trade Industry.

White Meat Cutters Would Bar Jim Crow Cities For Convention

ST. LOUIS, Mo.—Declaring that it has been embarrassed by the frequent inability of its delegates to secure reasonable hotel accommodations in many convention cities, the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen of North America, AFL, has taken action seeking to have its international executive board empowered to transfer a convention to some other city whenever such a situation arises.

ADOPTS RESOLUTION

The action was taken in the form of a resolution adopted at the union's sixteenth general convention held here starting June 12.

The resolution urges that no convention of any patriotic organization be held in any city that would deprive any group of Americans of equal privileges as is outlined in both the Declaration of Independence of the United States of America and its Constitution.

THE RESOLUTION

Asserting that "organized labor must firmly resolve and sincerely pledge its support to the eliminaiton of all racial and religious intolerance," the butchers said, "therefore, be it:

"RECOLVED, That this Sixteenth General Convention of the International Union go on record as follows:

"First, That the delegates attending a convention shall have the right to select the convention city, as is presently outlined in the international constitution, but that the international executive board shall have the power to transfer such convention to some other city where it is discovered that hotel accommodations for all delegates cannot be secured on equal terms irrespective of creed, color or nationality."

PRAISES COLORED PEOPLE

The resolution declared that the colored people of the United States had been splendid neighbors and patriotic citizens; asserted that they were shouldering their share of the sacrifice in this global war, and said that "from the trade union standpoint the Negroes have contributed as much as any other race of people toward the welfare of the working class, as well as the advancement of the cause of organized labor."

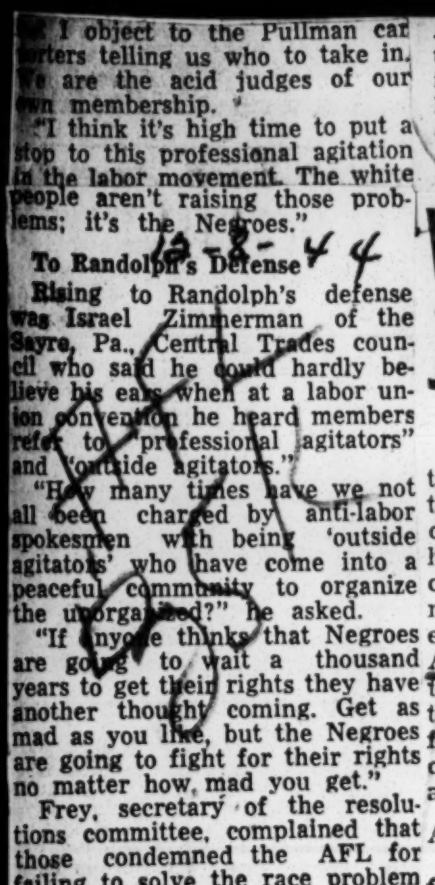
It deplored what was term the action of representatives in many states "within our own nation giving lip service to the cause of liberty, justice and equality and democracy, while underlying these hollow words extolling the brotherhood of man there is a sinister movement of class and racial inequality running rampart thruout the nation."

TO WRITE UNIONS

The resolution, signed by Earl W. Jimerson, president, and Patrick E. Gorman, secretary-treasurer, instructed the president and secretary to write every international union connected with the American Federation of Labor requesting that similiar action be taken by them.

The officers were further instructed to write the convention publicity leagues of every metropolitan city in the United States informing them of the stand taken by the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen.

Elected Delegate



LOUIS BORDERS, president of the Leisurewear, Robe and Sportswear Workers' Union, Local 284 of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America, elected delegate of the

Jimcrow Blocks War Output McNutt Tells AFL Convention

By GEORGE MORRIS

NEW ORLEANS, Nov. 21.—Chairman Paul V. McNutt of the War Manpower Commission in a hard-hitting speech at the AFL convention here charged that in some places "the color-line is allowed to take precedence over the all-American line in time of war."

Warning that the present turn of the war demands a still greater effort, McNutt called for an "all-American responsibility that will cut across all sectional, regional, industrial, class and race lines." He put extra emphasis on the words "race lines."

"It is a fact," he added, "that even under the pressure of war certain attitudes have changed slowly. The full answer illustrates that national responsibility can be blunted by default or blinded by prejudice.

"Our generals want trucks, foundries want manpower, and yet in some communities the color-line is allowed to take precedence over the all-American line in time of war. In other communities where foundries need manpower, there is inadequate housing for non-Americans, non-whites and other minority groups."

McNutt demanded that home front differences should not take precedence over the needs on the war fronts. Some managements of foundries are still producing non-essential goods or cling to employment restrictions of "race and color," said the manpower head.

UNION RESPONSIBILITY

"Unions, too, have a responsibility to see that democracy works within the ranks of labor," he added.

No one mistook the meaning of McNutt's plain-spoken words. He hit above all at a considerable section of the audience, heads of unions that still practice racial bars or restrictions.

McNutt's speech had no direct reference to any one in the AFL, but it was a well-prepared address that drove pile-driver blows at some people here.

"Responsibility cannot be faked, juggled, disguised, dissembled or evaded," was his final and blunt word to the convention.

McNutt warned that the hardest fighting is still ahead and laxity now is "fumbling on the ten-yard line."

The solution to the shifting of workers to civilian production despite a greater war need in certain lines, is not a national service act or a "sugar-coated" service act. The need is for a "revitalized sense of responsibility to the American people," McNutt said.

He warned against empty statements and resolutions. "General Platitude has not won one single victory in this war, and will not win one single victory in the peace," he told the AFL.

The success of our postwar plans will depend on the success in meeting the immediate challenge of the war, McNutt said, because the prosperity of the future cannot be realized unless peace is secured.

2 WAR LESSONS

The two great democratic lessons of the war are "the indivisibility of the United Nations and the indivisibility of Americanism," McNutt asserted. He warned that the only other alternative to teamwork between the United Nations is a third world war and the "cancelling out of civilization."

A considerable portion of the speech dealt with Japan's great strength and advantages, and showed the danger of demobilizing America after Germany's defeat.

McNutt's speech evoked a standing ovation. Whether the convention will take his words seriously and at long last seriously move to wipe out race bars and Jimcrowism in its ranks, must still be shown.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

President Roosevelt, in a message to the convention today, added his appeal to those already made by four Administration speakers, that labor "must stay unceasingly at the production job so as to shorten the war."

"I know there will be no letdown in this task," continued the President's message, "by any group of patriotic Americans and I know that such cooperation will continue after the war is won so that we can win the peace for the world which will be just and lasting and in the interest of safety protection and well-being for generations yet unborn."

The President, unable to accept an invitation to address the convention, praised American workingmen and women "who have done a production job the like of which the world has never seen before."

This morning Holt Ross, international representative of the Common Laborers Union, who was fraternal delegate to the recent convention of the British Trades Union Congress, gave an enthusiastic report of what he saw on the gates Friday of the work of that

sonable doubt." Calling for a series of measures to wipe out discrimination practices, Smith stressed the need of the unity of all workers in a postwar America to meet attacks and problems of reconversion.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Delegates today received a memorandum on racial discrimination in the AFL, submitted by Richard W. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the Dining Car Council of voters. Smith observes that the CIO, through its liberal policies has won the Negro sentiment "beyond rea-

congress and the decision to call a meeting of the labor conference on Jan. 8.

war fronts and in U. S. camps in Britain.

Holt's prepared report did not even mention the British labor parley. He only reported the general friendship to labor that he observed among American troops and the bombings in London. Thus, the convention will have to hear from the British fraternal delegates of the Hotel Employees and Restaurant International.

Jim Crow in The Boilermakers

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 2-11-44

AN EDITORIAL

Jim Crow continues in the AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. That is the word from the 17th convention, just concluded at Kansas City, Mo. Despite a letter direct from President Roosevelt and a personal appeal from AFL President William Green, delegates representing 450,000 war workers, Negro and white, left fundamentally intact their outrageous policy of segregating Negro members into auxiliary lodges.

There is something deeply shocking about this callous indifference to American principles, especially now, in this year of decision. All of civilized mankind is united in a war against Hitler, arch-priest of Jim Crow, and yet a policy like this is permitted to stand!

The convention was not a total loss on the question. It registered a sweeping movement for change but a stubborn officialdom refused to permit it full expression. Two small concessions that were won are evidence that the bureaucracy felt the pressure for full equality. The decisions to permit Negro auxiliaries to send delegates to conventions in future and to enjoy union insurance which they should have had long since, are concessions which must be regarded as face-savers. They will spur the fight for full equality. It is not yet clear how important they are in themselves. It is clear, however, that they are intended by the officialdom as a cover-up for a continuing burning injustice. 2-11-44

The important thing now is to get rank and file protest against the convention inaction. This will not be easy because obviously democratic expression cannot exist in a union where Jim Crow flourishes. But lodges and members of lodges will have to find a way to speak up and demand a change. War's interests and ordinary justice demand it. The AFL Executive Council, too, must move. It is not relieved of its obligation by Mr. Green's speech to the convention, good as it was. The Executive Council must abandon its old "hands off" policy and act to compel one of its big affiliates to obey the American Constitution and the Executive Order of the President of the United States.

Negro Workers Await Court Ruling on AFL Jim Crowism

PM-New York, N.Y. 1-7-44

Special Correspondence

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 7.—Negro workers at the big Walsh-Kaiser Shipyard, who thought they were full-fledged members of Local 308 of the International Boilermakers Union, AFL, until their ballots were pigeon-holed at an election of officers last month, await a vital court decision today in their injunction fight against discrimination and unon "disfranchisement."

Superior Court Judge Alexander L. Churchill, who for the past two days has been hearing testimony about how ballots of some 400 Negro workers were segregated in pink envelopes, marked with a capital "C," and ignored in tabulating the results of the election, will decide whether alleged discriminatory treatment calls for issuance of a temporary injunction.

According to the testimony, the dues-paying Negro workers heard for the first time at the election that they weren't members of Local 308 but rather members of an auxiliary of the international parent union. According to William J. Buckley, an international representative, the auxiliary was established by "executive order" in June, 1942. Given no inkling that they weren't regular members of the union, the Negroes had never had an opportunity to form an auxiliary local. 1-7-44

Buckley, questioned by attorney Thurgood Marshall of New York, representing the National Assn. of the Advancement of Colored People, disclosed that the members of the local at a meeting Dec. 29 recommended that the ballots of the Negroes be counted.

But when Marshall asked him if he would abide by the recommendation and have the ballots counted, counsel for several officials of the local objected and Buckley was not allowed to answer.

Buckley said his instructions at the election were that only "regular members" could vote, and that would exclude members of the international auxiliary. He denied knowing who ordered the Negro ballots put in pink envelopes.

Asked if it wasn't a fact Negro members voted in the previous election in July, he said he saw some "men of color" but presumed they were members of other dark races. "When a man admits he is of Negro race he must go into the auxiliary," Buckley said.

Boilermakers to Ask End of Negro Bar at Convention

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y. 1-26-44

(Special to the Daily Worker)

OAKLAND, Cal., Jan. 25.—Resolutions to dynamite Jim Crow out of the AFL Boilermakers Union have been prepared by Welders and Burners Local 681 for presentation to the international's convention Jan. 30 and 31 in Kansas City.

The hide-bound practice of the union, which relegates Negro members to so-called "auxiliary" lodges where they are denied voting rights, though forced to pay dues, is under attack in Seattle and in Providence, R. I., as well as in several California cities.

While the issue is being pressed in the courts and before the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, Local 681 has prepared to put the issue squarely before the convention, demanding an end to Jim Crow.

BLOW TO JIM CROW

Their resolution, adopted at a special membership meeting, asks for the full integration of Negroes into "regularly chartered and established . . . lodges."

Stating that the need for labor unity is greater now than ever before to protect closed shop contracts and to secure better ones, the resolution adds:

"All people working at the same trade within the labor movement are entitled to the same benefits, the same protection on the job, the same democratic voice in trade union affairs." 1-26-44

The local will ask the convention to amend the qualifications for membership by adding: "no qualification for membership in the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers . . . shall be rejected by reason of the applicant's race, color, creed, national origin or sex."

Local 681 will also ask that no charter be granted for auxiliary lodges and will ask that the International dissolve all existing auxiliaries "segregated for Negroes or any other race or group actually working with the tools of the trade." Members now in Jim Crow auxiliaries should be transferred into their respective parent or appropriate subordinate lodges, Oakland Welder and Burner delegates will tell the convention.

SHIPYARD NEGROES LOSE COURT TEST

Times-New York, N.Y. 1-7-44

Judges See No Federal Jurisdiction in Plea to Compel Admittance to Coast Union

Special to THE NEW YORK TIMES.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 6—An attempt by Negro shipyard workers to force the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers of America to admit them to full membership in the union by bringing injunctive action in the Federal District Court failed today when a panel of three judges ruled that the court was without jurisdiction.

Motions by counsel for the union to dismiss three separate cases concerning workers at the yards of the Marinship Corporation, the Bethelehem Steel Company and the Moore Shipbuilding and Drydock Company were granted by Judges Michael J. Roche, Louis E. Goodman and A. F. St. Sure.

No Federal question, they held, was involved in the controversy which some weeks ago had led to the discharge of several Negro boilermakers for refusal to join and pay dues to a Negro auxiliary of the boilermakers' brotherhood, an affiliate of the American Federation of Labor. 1-7-44

At that time Judge St. Sure issued a preliminary straining order to prevent further dismissals pending the outcome of the Federal court action.

In declining jurisdiction the opinion stated:

"The plaintiffs' cause of action does not arise out of provisions of the Federal Constitution or any Federal statutes.

"Nor does the plaintiff establish a basis for Federal jurisdiction by assertion of right under the Fifth Amendment. The Fifth Amendment relates but to governmental action, Federal in character, not to action by private persons."

The judges stated that the union was not a corporation but an unincorporated association, and that "while it has its headquarters and its principal place of business outside of the State of California, it has a large membership in California." Consequently they found "no diversity of citizenship such as will clothe the court with jurisdiction." 1-7-44

Herbert Resner, attorney for the plaintiffs, said that action would be filed in the State Superior Court "in a day or two."

Not only will the issue arise in the company's failure to pay dues in the auxiliary to its guns. It has obtained a temporary injunction in the Superior court, in which Judge Walsh has restrained the International from removing the ballots of the Negro members, elected a Negro as an officer of the local, and has elected Negro as a delegate to the convention. Despite the ruling of the International that the Negroes may not be carried on the rolls of Local 308, the International body has continued these acts on the part of Local 308. But the local is sticking to the teeth of the Boilermakers' real challenge has been flung from firing men for their own locals. Local Providence, R. I., has let the bars, accepted Negro of the local, and has elected Negro as a delegate to this convention.

'NEGRO' TO BE CONFAB ISSUE

Defender Chicago, Ill. 1-1-44

By HARRY McALPIN
(Defender Washington Bureau)

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The "Negro Problem" will be the biggest issue on the agenda when the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Welders and Helpers of America meets Jan. 31, in its first consolidated convention since September 1937.

The Boilermakers are on the spot. A combination of circumstances has operated to put them there. Their own slogan—"unity, progress and protection"—is going to be challenged. And all this because the Boilermakers' officials are trying to live in the "good old days," when the labor movement had not been made fully aware that Negroes must be organized, too, but that Negroes want the same rights, privileges, protections, duties and responsibilities as other workers in the organization of labor.

but must be listed as members of Auxiliary No. 1 in Kansas City, the Providence union has considered its Negro members as a participating part of the organization.

This is a real challenge to the International Brotherhood. In 1937, when the plan of auxiliary unions for Negroes was adopted, only a scattered few voices of individuals were raised in behalf of full membership. The strongest voice at that time was raised by a Delegate Bain, of Lodge 126, who declared:

"I was impressed by the statement of the delegates who claimed to be a southerner and who said he was taught to hold the Negro down. I was also impressed by the remarks of the last delegate who spoke of conditions in the shipyards. There is one point we must keep in mind. During the war from 1914 to 1918, when America sent her best blood across the ocean, I am sure the colored boys were in the trenches fighting side by side with you. Did it occur to you at that time that it was the best policy to hold the Negro down? 1-1-44

"Did it occur to you that was best policy at that particular time when we were together to meet the enemy? We had no objection to him then. It seems to me that the only logical and feasible way is to take into consideration whether the colored man is an asset or detriment to the labor movement. It is my opinion that he is an asset to the labor movement. That is all I want to say."

Today, however, with a more enlightened attitude on the part of the masses of organized workmen, with a war in process, with a government agency ruling the auxiliary union procedure contrary to the President's re-affirmed policy of nondiscrimination, and with a courageous local having "taken the bull by the horns," the International is in for a hot session.

A reversal of policy by the International would mark one of labor's most progressive steps forward. The convention proceedings, therefore, will be watched with interest by the FEPC, organized labor in general, and by the public.

Fight For Integration In Boilermakers' Union

CAZL Kansas City, Missouri 2-4-44

Whether the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers will continue to limit Negroes to membership in auxiliary unions or whether it will obey FEPC directives and admit them to full membership in regular locals will be decided at the international convention which opened in the Municipal auditorium here Monday, Jan. 31. The convention will run for two weeks.

Following hearings held on the West Coast last fall, the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice ordered the Boilermakers' union to cease discrimination against Negroes by abolishing the auxiliary unions. The Boilermakers refused to send representatives to the FEPC hearing and so far have made no indication as to whether they intend to comply with the committee's request.

Malcolm Ross, chairman of the FEPC, came here Thursday, Jan. 27, to confer with officials of the company but he did not make public the findings of his two-day preconvention conferences. The international headquarters of the Boilermakers' union are in Kansas City, Kas.

Five members of auxiliary unions on the West Coast and one from Memphis were sent here by their unions to attempt to get the convention to abolish the auxiliary unions and to grant Negroes full integration into the union.

The six Negro auxiliary members were granted seats on the convention floor Tuesday morning, Feb. 1, as business sessions of the convention began. The members of auxiliaries in Oakland and Los Angeles have been among the most ardent fighters against the auxiliary set-up. For three years, the Boilermakers' local A26 of Oakland, the first of some 150 auxiliaries set up in various parts of the country, has been sending representatives to the international headquarters to press for full membership in the union.

Oakland's auxiliary A26 has a membership of 5,500 men and women while Los Angeles' local A35 has 4,500 members. Through the auxiliaries thousands of Negroes have obtained jobs in the shipyards on the West Coast and those job-holders now are pooling their energies and their money in the fight for integration into the Boilermakers union.

The representatives of the auxiliary unions who are here for the convention are H. F. Peirson, president, Spencer Jordan, secretary-treasurer, and James Bowman, corresponding secretary and business representative, all of Boilermakers' local A26 in Oakland; and Garner V. Grayson Jr., secretary, and U. S. Griggs, assistant secretary, of local A35 in Los Angeles.

These men have met with the resolutions committee in whose hands is a resolution urging the abolition of the auxiliary unions and the integration of Negro members into the regular locals.

In order to adopt the resolution, the convention will have to change its by-laws which now limit membership to white persons.

The resolution was presented to the resolutions committee by the men from Oakland in June. Action was deferred until the session of the international body. The convention will be in session for two weeks.

Negroes In Union Pay Double Rates For Insurance

Atlanta Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

PROVIDENCE R. I.— (SNS) —Negro members of the jim crow auxiliary of the Boilermakers union pay twice as much for insurance as the white members of the regular locals, it was testified here June 14 by William Buckley, international vice president of the union. 6-18-44

Buckley's testimony came at the close of a four-week hearing in superior court before Judge Patrick P. Gurran, on a suit to secure a permanent injunction against auxiliary unions in this state. Negro workers at the Walsh-Kaiser shipyards here brought the suit after their ballots were thrown out in a union election last December. In January they secured a temporary injunction issued by Judge Alexander Churchill. 6-18-44

The colored workers are represented by Thurgood Marshall, NAACP Special Counsel, and Joseph Le Count of this city. Counsel for both sides, will file briefs with the the courts June 21 and at that time will decide whether closing arguments will be made.

No Basis For Charges Of Social Equality

THE International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders and Helpers, meeting in convention in Kansas City, Kansas, recently, chose to ignore the FEPC order directing the organization to desist in discriminatory employment practices. In doing so the unionists charged that "professional agitators" had injected the question of "social equality" into the convention.

The charge is, of course, absolutely without foundation. No question of "social equality" or of "professional agitators" is involved in the efforts of Negro workers to eliminate restrictions which are palpably fraudulent and grossly discriminative.

The President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice, holding hearings last fall on charges of discriminatory employment practices in West Coast shipyards, found that the auxiliary unions were created only for Negro workers; that these workers have no voice in the conduct of the union's affairs, and must accept as their business agent the business agent of the white lodge in whose election the auxilaries have had no part.

It was also found that the auxiliary question included unfair differences in insurance benefits as provided for the Negro workers.

The latter fact seems to have been overlooked by Mr. Westbrook Pegler, who commenting recently in his syndicated column on the FEPC directive and the boilermakers' union, gave the impression that members of the auxiliary unions were not automatically forced to pay insurance premiums.

The fact is, they do pay the same insurance fees as do whites, and into a company run by the head of the union, but their benefits are limited as compared with the benefits available to white members.

Protests of colored workers against practices resorted to for the purpose of perpetually confining them to an inferior status as American workmen do not constitute bids for social equality, nor does it require professional agitators to give voice to the protests.

36k-1944

AFL International Brotherhood of Boilermakers

Boilermakers Must Make Forward Step

Call - Kansas City, [redacted] Missouri

When the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers ends its convention now in session in Kansas City, it will have made a decision regarding the auxiliary unions and Negro membership. It is not apparent at this writing what that decision will be. The sessions of the union are held in secret. The press and the public are barred from the convention hall except at a few "open" meetings where formal addresses are made.

The Boilermakers have a momentous decision before them. There are many factors to be taken into consideration. Although we who believe in full democracy and justice in all times and in all phases of life can see but one side to the question—that Negro workers should be given full membership in the union without restriction and without limitation—it is not so simple a question with the men who make up the union. 2-11-'44

Many of the boilermakers, especially those from the South, see in the integration of Negro workers into their union a reversal of all they have held near and dear for years. Their constitution limits membership to "white Americans" only. When they admitted Negroes to quasi-membership by establishing auxiliary unions for them at the last international convention, they felt that they were taking a long step forward. It did not occur to them that the fact that Negro workers paid their dues to the international but were not permitted to sit and vote in the convention was as unfair as the "taxation without representation" which their forefathers fought against in the Revolutionary war.

To admit Negroes to full membership in the union with all its privileges and responsibilities would be a step toward democracy which the Boilermakers could well afford to take. Other unions have extended membership to Negroes and are none the worse for the brown faces sprinkled among the delegates at international conventions.

The voting strength of the Negro delegates would not be large enough to exert any great influence over the convention, so this may be eliminated as a reason for not granting Negroes full membership.

There would be no less jobs for white boilermakers if Negroes were full union members because in the auxiliary set-up, Negro workers already are employed and are being upgraded in the shipyards.

With neither voting strength nor jobs in jeopardy there is no sound reason why the Boilermakers should not admit Negroes to full membership. The only thing that stands in the way is the same old bugaboo—race prejudice ——which has held up progress in this country for so many years.

Union members have given up willingly some of the basic rights of labor organizations—the strike, for example —in the interest of furthering the war effort. They must be just as willing to give up an unsound prejudice of long-standing as they are to forfeit for the duration a fundamental principle of their union. It is not easy to give up prejudices which one has held for a life-time, but for their country's sake, the Boilermakers must subordinate their personal feelings and take a broad view of the situation and act as President Roosevelt has said in "accordance with the American traditions of freedom and fair play."

Union Fights Clos[redacted]hop!

World-Telegram—New [redacted] N.Y.

Paradox in Case of Ne[redacted]orkers

7-21-44

By Scripps-Howard Newspaper Alliance.

SAN FRANCISCO, July 21.—An employer's lawyer defending the validity of a closed-shop contract while a labor attorney supports the principle of union regulation is the paradox to which justices of the California Supreme Court are being treated in oral arguments which have led into preparation of voluminous briefs.

At stake is the right of the AFL Boilermakers' Union to segregate Negro workers, totaling nearly 1000, in a "Jim Crow" auxiliary.

One one side is the attorney for Marinship, big shipyard in Marin County, across the Golden Gate from San Francisco, supported by attorneys for the Boilermakers and the California Federation of Labor. On the other is the attorney for the Negroes, who has a long record as a counsel for local affiliates of the CIO.

* * *

Some months ago the Negroes staged a short work stoppage to dramatize their demands for full membership and privileges. The Boilermakers insisted that the company observe a closed-ship contract which provided, among other things, discharge of workers refusing to join the union or auxiliary to which they are assigned. 7-21-44

The Negroes obtained a Marin County Superior Court injunction which prevented the union from enforcing upon the company the provisions of the closed-shop contract for discharge of the Negroes and also from enforcing its "Jim Crow" policy. The Boilermakers appealed to the State Supreme Court.

In oral argument, the attorney for the company claimed it must observe the closed-shop contract with the Boilermakers.

Backing the company's argument, but for their own reasons, attorneys for the union and the California Federation of Labor cited the rules of the international, claimed the right to exclude any person from membership, said that if compelled to admit Negroes the union would also have to let down the bar to women members and argued that the auxiliary setup was "not exclusion but segregation."

* * *

The white attorney acting for the Negroes said that he, too, found himself in a strange position, arguing for regulation which would require a union to change practices authorized by a contract with an employer. He added:

"This is a novel case brought about by the war, and it must be resolved in the light of the war. But unions have acquired new status, and they must accept regulation in the public interest." 7-21-44

The case ties in with the postwar right of Negroes to full economic freedom and might establish a precedent in law which may affect standard closed-shop contracts in craft unions which have been in effect for years.

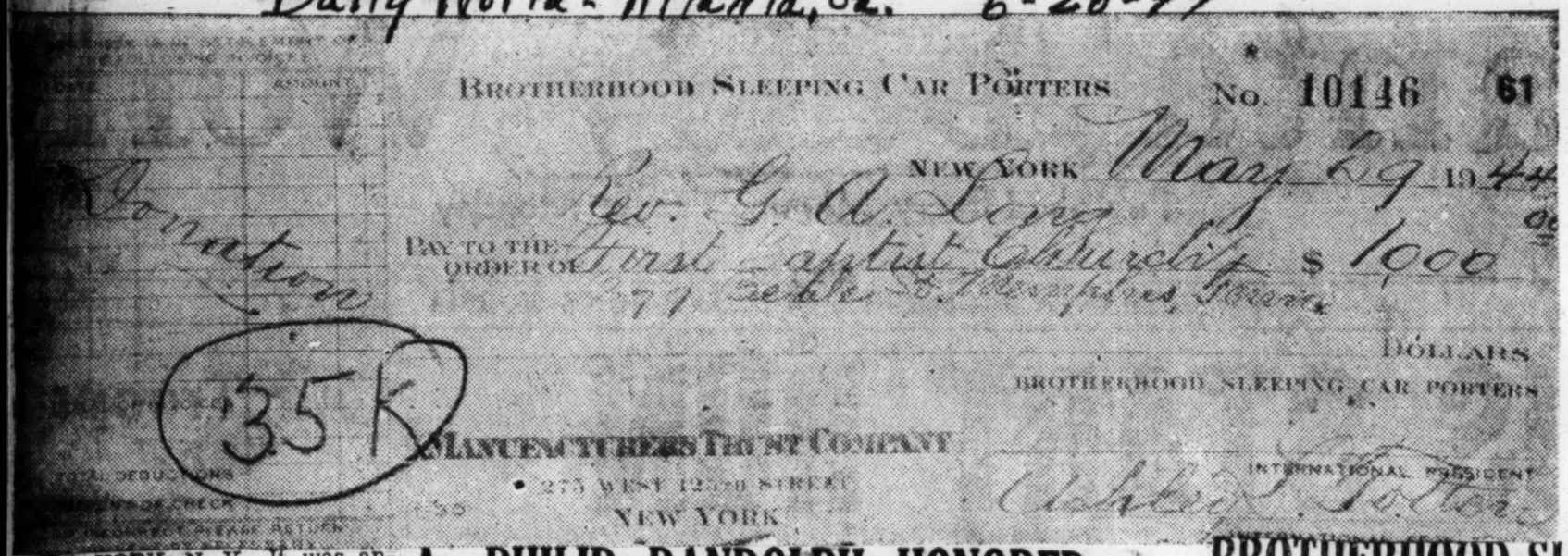
Another possible tie is with a proposition which has qualified for the state ballot in the November election. This initiative, originated among members of the Merchants & Manufacturers' Assn. in Los Angeles, affirms the right of a person to a job regardless of union membership.

The Supreme Court decision might have a bearing upon arguments advanced for and against this proposition. In any event there appears to be developing in California, as elsewhere, sentiment which may have considerable effect upon future closed-shop agreements.

35k-1944 AFL International Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters

Pullman Porters Give Memphis Church $1,000

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga. 6-20-44



NEW YORK, N. Y.—It was announced at the International Headquarters of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters that $1000 was contributed to the First Baptist Church, Beale Avenue, Memphis, under the pastorate of the Rev. G. A. Long, where A. Phillips Randolph spoke in the celebrated free speech meeting which was opposed by Mr. Crump. A few days after the meeting was held, Crump ordered the fire department chief of inspect the first Baptist Church of Beale Avenue, and the church was condemned, and a fire hazard penalty was placed on it which required the expenditure of $2000 to make repairs to put the church in condition for use.

Cornelius Maiden, A. F of L Organizer, has been leading the drive to raise money to make the repairs for Rev. Longs' church, and great success if being achieved according to latest reports.

A. PHILIP RANDOLPH HONORED FOR SERVICE TO LABOR'S RIGHTS

Northwest Enterprise — Seattle, Wash. 3-15-44

NEW YORK — A Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, and outstanding Negro leader, has won the Cleveland Award of the Workers Defense League for distinguished service to labor's rights, Rev. Aron S. Gilmartin, newly elected chairman of the League announced today.

New York's noted Town Hall will be the scene of a testimonial concert and meeting Sunday evening, April 2, at which the award will be presented.

Previous winners of the award, which is in the form of a plaque, were Senator Robert M. LaFollette, Jr., of Wisconsin, and John F. Fintrey, noted attorney who handled the defense of Odell Waller and was active in the Sacco-Vanzetti and Mooney cases.

The award to Mr. Randolph, voted for his "lifetime of distinguished service to labor's rights," recalls, Morris Milgram, WDL national secretary declared, "his dramatic move in June, 1941, when the March on Washington Movement under his leadership won from President Roosevelt Executive Order 8802, establishing the Fair Employment Practice Committee."

"Mr. Randolph is rendering the same distinguished service to all the people through his leadership now of the National Council for a Permanent FEPC, which is pressing for passage of HR 3986, the bill by Representative Scanlon, Dawson, LaFollette and Bender to establish in Iowa the principle of freedom from discrimination as a privilege of all citizens, which shall be safeguarded by a permanent Fair Employment Commission," Mr. Milgram continued. 3-15-44

"How much Mr. Randolph is feared by those who would keep all labor in subjection was indicated by the recent action of the Crump machine in Memphis which barred Mr. Randolph from speaking at a great public meeting there.

"How much he is loved," Mr. Milgram said, "is indicated by the universal respect in which he is held by millions of Americans. For example, although Mr. Randolph is in the American Federation of Labor, many CIO officials as well as AFL leaders are on the committee of sponsors for the Town Hall testimonial concert and meeting."

BROTHERHOOD SLEEPING CAR PORTERS HOLD 19TH ANNUAL CONVENTION -

Northwest Enterprise — Seattle, Wash. 9-6-44

The Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A. F. of L., with a membership of 12,500 and 95 local branches in the United States and Canada, celebrated the organization's 19th anniversary recently.

The session opened with a public labor mass meeting Sunday, August 20, at Chicago's Good Shepherd Congregational Church, with A. Philip Randolph, president of the Brotherhood and director of the "March on Washington movement, as guest speaker. The president emphasized the importance of labor organizations in political and economic affairs.

Ashley Totten, secretary-treasurer, gave a synopsis of the conditions leading to the origination of the Brotherhood by five members in New York City. Benjamin Smith, vice president, one of the original five organizers, was another speaker. 9-6-44

Mrs. Helena Wilson, president of the Women's Auxiliary, described the prominent role wives of Brotherhood members play in keeping the group in harmony. Claude E. Groom, vice president of the Chicago branch introduced the Chicago prexy, Milton P. Webster, who told of hardships connected with establishing the local chapter.

The mass meeting was followed on Monday and Tuesday by an open house program during which friends of organized labor were invited to inspect the Chicago headquarters. An informal social was held on Wednesday with members' relatives as the guests.

On Thursday a meeting under the auspices of the Auxiliary was held. Activities concluded on Saturday with the 19th Anniversary dance at Parkway Ballroom. 9-6-44

In an announcement Chicago President Webster said that the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, which also represents approximately 2500 chair car and train porters, intends to remain in the A. F. of L., but will continue to fight discriminatory and un-American practices identified wth varous branches of the body.

35k-1944

AFL Seafarers International Union

Demands Jimcrow Policy For Crew, Minutes Reveal

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

By George Morris

Officials of the AFL's Seafarers International Union have gone as far as to urge their white members not to sign up for ships unless assurance is given that no Negroes are on board. 2-5-44

The Daily Worker learned this yesterday from a copy of the minutes describing the proceedings of the New York branch membership meeting of the SIU held on Jan. 10 at 2 Stone St.

The suggestion not to ship came in the report of Secretary-Treasurer John Hawk.

The Daily Worker also learned that Hawk and Joe Volpian, New York Engine Patrolman of the union, have sent a letter to Southern Congressmen complaining to them of the government's "checkerboard" crew policy. Undoubtedly, their eyes are particularly set on Virginia Rep. Howard Smith's efforts to kill the FEPC. Mr. Smith, a poll-taxer, will certainly see Hawk's point of view.

Some dollar-a-year men, shipowners in the War Shipping Administration, who have traditionally followed a discrimination policy, will also see his point without trouble.

HAWK'S ADVICE

The subject under discussion at the SIU meeting was the policy of the Recruitment Manning Office of the War Shipping Administration barring race discrimination. The target were officials of the New York office of the RMO whom Hawk called "Communists" because they carry out the non-discrimination policy of the government.

After reminding the assembled 150 members that the SIU was always against "checker-board" crews, Hawk said, according to the minutes:

"Are we going to uphold this policy or are we going to let a couple of Communists change that policy? If we are going to reaffirm our policy, then we will have to adopt ways and means to fight this move. One way this move can be licked is for all crews not to sign on a ship until you have a full crew aboard, so if an attempt to checker-board is made, you can quit without being haunted by the Coast Guard, or else wait until a patrolman gets aboard to straighten the matter out." 2-5-44

The same meeting passed a motion approving Hawk's report and reaffirming "our previous position, that there shall be no 'checker-boarding' of crews."

The SIU maintains a special dispatching office for Negro stewards. But its policy of segregation is running smack into the government's non-discriminatory dispatching procedure.

LUNDEBERG'S OUTFIT

The Sailors Union of the Pacific, over which Harry Lundeberg is also president, follows the same policy as the SIU, a small union which operates on the Atlantic Coast.

For some months the SIU has been sniping at Craig Vincent, New York Director of the RMO, for carrying out the government's hiring policy. A recent issue of the Seafarers Log, organ of the SIU, paints him as a "fellow-traveler" because he addressed civil rights meetings. Far more bothersome to the SIU officials than Vincent's alleged associations, is the government's policy. Hawk describes his complaint as follows in the same report on Jan. 10:

"It was brought to my attention last Friday that our Colored Stewards Dispatcher E. Goulding, called the RMO and requested six colored men for a Calmar ship. The RMO informed him that they could not fill such an order, because it was discriminatory and a violation of Executive Order 9346.

"The angle that they are now using to put this over is that the RMO Fink Hall uses the rotary hiring hall system, and that they have only one shipping list for the colored and white men. Therefore, if the union requests six colored messmen and there are three white men on top of the list and three colored men follow next on the list, the position of Craig Vincent, Atlantic Director of the RMO, is that we have to take the first six messmen on their shipping list, thereby establishing the checker-boarding of crews." 2-5-44

That, of course, makes Mr. Vincent a "Communist" and, Hawk could have added, makes the President a Communist for issuing such executive orders or establishing the FEPC as an agency for enforcement of such policies.

That the SIU and the SUP are Jim Crow unions and their leaders are dyed in the wool reactionaries and very indifferent to the war effort, is not news. But their current renewed activity to carry their stench of slavery days into the entire shipping industry is encouraged by similar efforts in other spheres.

The SIU and SUP efforts coincide with the announced refusal of Southern railroads and several AFL unions to carry out the FEPC order on hiring Negroes. The Brotherhood of Boilermakers (AFL) is similarly refusing to admit Negroes into full membership and discriminates against them in West Coast shipyards. 2-5-44

In the meantime, the government is confronted with a problem. Events in the Pacific and Atlantic war theatres are fast approaching the climaxing moments when mobilization of supplies will determine everything. The supplies and ship may be already to sail, but if the ship is under SIU jurisdiction it may not sail—not if Hawk's men find out that there is a Negro, Chinese, or some other "non-Aryan" seaman on board.

Charges AFL Seamen's Union Plotting To Destroy FEPC

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga

3-9-44

Jim Crow Ships Would Block An All Out Effort, Asserts Curran

NEW YORK, (ANP)—In his "Keep 'Em Sailing" column which appeared in the March issue of "The Pilot,' official weekly organ of the National Maritime union, CIO. Joseph Curran, president charges the Seafarers International union, AFL, with seeking an alliance with Rep. Howard W. Smith (D. Va.) to attack the Fair Employment Practices Committee, receive approval of its policy of discrimination against Negroes in the Merchant Marine, and "help bring fascism to America."

Curran asserts that "jim crow" ships would interfere with the war effort, on the simple basis that if a ship is in port and is an all-white or all-black ship, and seamen of that color are not available on the beach, the ship would be held up."

The NMU leader cites the complaint by the SIU against FEPC enforcement of equal shipping rights of Negro seamen, which is the basis for the hearings by the Smith Investigating Committee, and declares that the SIU "is playing into the hands of the reactionaires and local fascists who are attempting to divide our people as Hitler did in France, Holland, Norway, etc." 3-9-44

"The Smith committee must not be allowed to give its stamp of approval to this attempt to help bring fascism to America. 3-9-44

At the first hearing called by the Smith Investigating Committee last Friday NMU Vice Presidents Frederick N. Myers and Howard McKenzie and Baltimore Port Agent James Drury were present but were not called upon to testify.

Curran Charges Smith Supports Discrimination of Negro Seamen

Tribune-Washington, D.C
3-11-44

Accusations that the rival A.F. of L. Seafarers' International Union is attempting to further a policy of discrimination against Negroes in the Merchant Marine by seeking aid of the House committee headed by Rep. Howard W. Smith (Alexandria, Va., Democrat), in an attack on the Fair Employment Practice Committee, were made by Joseph Curran, president of the CIO's Maritime Union, Friday.

Curran asserts that "Jim-Crow ships would interfere with the war effort, on the simple basis that if a ship is in port and is an all-white or all-black ship, and seamen of that color are not available on the beach, the ship would be held up."

Race Mingling Charged

The accusations followed hearing by the Smith committee on complaints that the SIU made against the War Shipping Board —that is was mingling Negro and white crews aboard ship in keeping with the FEPC's non-discrimination employment policy.

"The SIU representatives," said Mr. Curran, "claim that the NMU's policy of giving shipping rights to our Negro brothers on an equal basis with all other seamen, is interfering with the war effort and that all ships should be either black or white.

"The NMU policy has been an American policy: we say that this is a people's war and there is no place for poll taxers outside of Berlin and no place for discrimination other than Berlin.

All Entitled to Rights

3-11-44

"We say that 13,000,000 Americans have an equal right to live and fight this people's war and to all the other rights that go to an American citizen. For seven years there has been no discrimination in the NMU, and the ships have sailed on time.

"We have made the best record of delivering the goods and making the sacrifices which were necessary. . . . This present attempt is just another example of the actions of the SIU, backed by the shipowners, in playing into the hands of the reactionaries and local fascists, who are attempting to divide our people as Hitler did in France, Holland, Norway, etc.

"All ship's crews and others should let their sentiments be known on this important situation. You should write letters and telegrams to the Smith committee telling them to stop their playing into the hands of fascists by attempting to promote disunity and division among the American people, particularly in such an important industry as ours," advised Mr. Curran.

35k-1944

AFL Union of Railway Postal Clerks

Bar Rail Clerks Jimcrow Rule

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y., 7-21-44

ALBANY, July 20 — The New York State Court of Appeals ruled yesterday that the Railway Mail Association, an AFL union of railway postal clerks, violated New York State laws when it barred Negroes from membership.

The court upheld an Appellate Division decision which reversed the findings of Justice William H. Murray of the State Supreme Court.

Justice Murray had ruled that the association was not a union but a "fraternal beneficiary society."

The Railway Mail Association started the action after its New York City branch admitted Negroes to membership contrary to the constitution which contains a Jimcrow clause limiting membership to "members of the Caucasian race or native American Indians." 7-21-44

The association tried to restrain Attorney General Nathaniel Goldstein proceeding against it for violation of the State Civil Rights Law.

The Court of Appeals opinion was written by Chief Judge Irving Lehman.

Rescind prior Approval of Amalgamation

Danville Union's Stage Sudden "About Face"

DANVILLE, Va.--Just as suddenly as they had voted in favor of a merger with a Negro local, the white locals of the Textile Workers Union of America rescinded the previous action in a meeting early this week and voted disapproval of the merger plan.

Originally or Policy

At the suggestion of national union officials, the white locals agreed last week to unite the two white and one colored locals into one interracial local of Danville Textile workers in order to eliminate the constant friction which existed among some uniformity of policy and action.

This move was heralded throughout the labor world as a step in the direction of union cooperation and advancement. Negro textile workers were satisfied with the union situation for the first time since they were organized.

But on Monday, the white unions made a complete about face and voted against the merger.

[illegible], regional union director, warned "outsiders to keep their hands off the situation." His warnings against "outside interference brought counter charges of "insincerity on the Jim Crow issue" from members of the colored union, who, incidentally, never got a chance to vote on approving the merger before it was dropped.

[illegible] in Danville

C. A. Coleman, local union president and one of the key men involved in the long fight to get justice for Negro workers in the textile union program in Danville, said he believed head of the national CIO textile union, that "as long as Negroes are stabbed in the back by the CIO, they will continue to fight."

Mr. Carwile, chairman of the local interracial committee, made a radio address over a local station on monday night in which he lambasted the stand taken by Mr. Coleman in the dispute.

In the agreement first made, and later rescinded, James B. Hutchinson Jr., was named one of the business agents of the amalgamated union with the provision that he have equal status with Douglas Lanes, the white local's business agent.

Journal and Guide Norfolk, Va. 10-7-44

Fair Practices Committee Organized by CIO Union

Afro American — Baltimore, Md. 10-21-44

DETROIT — A Fair Practices Committee to investigate alleged violations of the union's anti-discrimination policy has been established by the United Automobile Workers of America, CIO.

The committee, first of its kind to be set up by a labor union, will also assist other departments of the union in handling problems involving minority groups.

According to the order creating the committee, this new body will conduct hearings, take testimony and present its findings and recommendations to the union's international executive board for approval and enforcement.

Committee Members

Members of the committee, appointed by R. J. Thomas, UAW-CIO president, are:

Chairman, George F. Addes, UAW secretary-treasurer; Richard T. Leonard of Detroit; Carl Swanson of Flint, Arnold Atwood of Indianapolis, and Joseph Mattson of Chicago. 10-21-44

George W. Crockett, Jr., formerly associated with the President's Fair Employment Practice Committee and more recently the union's consultant on minority problems, has been named executive director of the committee.

The plan for the committee was adopted by unanimous vote of the UAW's international executive board at its recent meeting in Atlantic City.

Julian Steele, Canada Lee Aff — New York, N.Y. On Political Action Comm.

2-12-44

Julian D. Steele, president of the Boston branch o fthe National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, and Canada Lee, actor, have accepted places on the National Citizens Political Action Committee, it was announced by Chairman Sidney Hillman at a committee meeting here, Saturday.

At the same time, Hillman announced that former Senator George W. Norris of Nebraska had accepted the position of honorary chairman of the committee.

Steele and Lee join Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Robert C. Weaver Paul Robeson, William Hastie, Roscoe Dunjee, P. B. Young, and Carter Wesley, previously-announced Negro members of the committee.

Afro-American Baltimore, Md. Robeson Scholarship Established at NYU

NEW YORK — To honor Paul Robeson, actor-singer, the State, County and Municipal Workers of America, a CIO union, has undertaken to provide a $200 annual scholarship in the New York University Graduate Division for Training in Public Service.

According to Abram Flaxer, president of the union, the purpose of the provision is not only to pay tribute to Mr. Robeson but also to quicken the interest of colored students in the field of public administration."

CIO Convention Raps Racial Discrimination

12-2-44 N.Y. Peoples Voice

CHICAGO—Thanksgiving day here saw delegates to the CIO convention pass unanimously a resolution condemning racial discrimination and describing the union's anti-jimcro policy the "corner-stone of the CIO." The resolution stressed that "gains that have been achieved must not be lost in the post-war period," and that "anti-union employers" must not be permitted to take "any steps which are designed to return to previous conditions of discrimination and thereby reduce the gains that all workers have won."

Before the delegates voted on the resolution, Thomas Richardson, a Negro delegate and vice-president of the United Federal Workers, hailed the resolution as a "fundamental document of democracy," and urged its passage.

PROPOSAL REJECTED 12-2-44

Later on in the session, a proposal to modify seniority rights so that a "proportional lay-off" of Negro workers during employment cutbacks would be insured was rejected. The delegates recognized that the old policy of "last hired, first fired" must be defeated. Specific proposals as to how this would be combatted were left to the individual unions because of varying conditions prevailing in different industries. It was definitely resolved, however, that something would be done. On this issue, Willard Townsend, president of the Transport Service Employees Union, and James B. Carey, the CIO secretary, spoke.

"DROP JIMCRO"—MURRAY

In his opening address to the convention delegates, president Phillip Murray called for the abolition of race discrimination saying that "the successful outcome of this present war must eliminate for all time the issue of discrimination because of race, creed or color. Within our own borders this problem assumes the form of discrimination against Negroes and religious bigotry. National unity connot be achieved in the face of any such vile practice." 12-2-44

Other important proposals considered by the convention was the reiteration of the famous "no strike pledge" by unanimous vote; the adoption of a permanent Political Action Committee as an "independent, non-partisan, political action free from any alliance with either major party" also by unanimous vote; and a resolution favoring the policies formulated at Dumbarton Oaks. As part of the anti-discrimination resolution, the convention voted support to a permanent FEPC. Improvements on the existing social security laws were asked, and all forms of sales taxes were condemned. 12-2-44

Among the many Negro leaders present were: Richard Carter, Yancey, Chicago, United Transport of the Marine and Shipyard Workers; Lyndon Henry, NYC, Fur ers Union; Boyd L. Wilson, United Steel Workers, Detroit; John Leondemration of armed forces jimcro, attitude, the convent to vote on each measure. 12-2-44 and George Weaver, UTSEA, Washington ions committee, but the committee's at convention delegates ns call for investi- f "auxiliary" (jim-

THOMAS RICHARDSON

ments." The pressure of the CIO, he continued, demands more liberal AFL policies 12-2-44

Other resolutions to be considered by the delegates call for a revision of the little steel formula, a no strike pledge, repeal of the Smith-Connally act, development of other projects like TVA, passage of "socialized medicine" bill, expansion of social security, and opposition to compulsory military training.

Union on Record for Equality

Negroes Take Part in Confab In Chicago

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — Charting a new course in industrial relations the seventh constitutional convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations meeting at Chicago's Stevens hotel this week adopted resolutions recommending that all CIO unions "seek the incorporation into collective bargaining agreements a provision that no person seeking employment shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, color or place of origin."

This resolution followed a report of CIO President Philip Murray who stated that through the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination more than 85 committees in state, county and city CIO councils have been organized since 1943.

"As this program develops," Murray declared, "it is providing an additional aid in translating CIO policy to the individual worker. It also provides an additional aid in creating a much needed impetus to the development of local and state leadership. For the development of sound racial policies in our affiliated unions, the best technique is to have local and state groups working out the solution of their own problems within the frame-work of the policies established by the CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination."

Re-inforced by this program of action, the first three days of the convention declared open season against racial and religious intolerance in CIO American life.

Among the speakers to direct attention to the problems of democratic citizeship were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, Vice-President Henry A. Wallace, Rabbi Louis Binstock, the Rev. Archibald J. Carey and Bishop Bernard J. Shell of the Catholic church.

To Organize In South

Shouts of "Wallace in 1948" resounded throughout the hall as the vice-president declared, "I can congratulate you for the Nov. 7 job. It was not a CIO, PAC, AFL or any other special victory. Nov. 7 was primarily the victory of the common man and common woman." Wallace was interrupted in his speech by the unannounced appearance on the convention floor of New York's fiery-Mayor F. H. La Guardia.

Liberal Catholic Bishop Shell through thunderous applause told the 1,000 Negro and white delegates that "American democracy will never come to full flower until discrimination against Negroes and Jews and all minority groups is erased from our national and personal lives."

Calling upon labor to strike a "telling blow" against discrimination, Bishop Sheil advised that "any discrimination tears into shreds the solidarity of the human race and makes a mockery of the Fatherhood of God and the Brotherhood of Christ. We have asked the Negro and the Jew to fight and die for democracy; it would be the basest cynicism to refuse to share with them that democracy."

The convention adopted a resolution calling for an extensive organization program among the workers of the South. R. J. Thomas, president of the United Auto Workers union, urged an immediate drive in this section as a primary step in breaking down the barriers that exist between the races.

The convention reported an overall increase in membership during the year of more than 600,000. To date, out of the approximate six million CIO members, more than 500,000 are Negroes.

CIO Refuses to Meet in South

CHICAGO. — (ANP) — The seventh annual CIO convention was officially opened at the Stevens hotel Monday in a historic rebuff of the south's traditional slavery-time racial barriers against Negroes. Southern hotels refused to guarantee equal accommodations for 24 Negro CIO delegations, who represent around 500,000 CIO Negro members.

Led by Philip Murray, Sidney Hillman and R. J. Thomas, over 1,600 enthusiastic CIO delegates packed the Stevens hotel grand ballroom to hear their big three indicate an intention to make the CIO a broad social and economic movement, representing the interests of all the people in the country. The interests of farmers, Negroes, minority groups, white collar workers and even business groups would be represented by the CIO, Murray declared.

National Maritime Union Accepts Resignation Of Ferdinand Smith

Because Of His Status As Alien

The National Maritime Union at a meeting at its headquarters, 346 West 17th street, announced Saturday that it has accepted the resignation of Ferdinand C. Smith, one of the nation's best known Negro labor leaders, as national secretary of NMU. Smith, an official of the union since its inception, remains a member in good standing.

Joseph Curran, NMU president made the resignation public on behalf of the National Council, which is composed of national officers and agents in key ports throughout the country. A committee appointed by Curran at Smith's request, after reports were published in daily newspapers that Smith was an alien, found that Smith was not a citizen, had not filed his intention to become a citizen, and was, therefore, ineligible to hold office. Immediately upon receiving the committee's report, Curran called a meeting of the Council members.

Curran informed the Council that Smith was in violation of the union's constitution. He pointed out that Smith had entered the United States legally in 1918, and had filed his intention to become a citizen in 1920. However, Curran said, Smith was frequently at sea and, like many other seamen, neglected to complete the necessary legal steps to secure his citizenship papers. His violation, Curran emphasized, was not intentional.

In submitting his resignation, Smith said:

"As a responsible leader of the union, it is my duty to do all in my power to see to it that the provisions of the constitution are held inviolate. The issue is not one of technicalities, pro or con. The only issue before me is the welfare of the National Maritime Union, my union, with which I have been associated since its inception.

"With that in mind, my course of action is clear, I must take that step which will make it impossible for this issue to be utilized by forces hostile to the union to split or weaken the union in anyway."

In announcing Smith's resignation, the NMU Council emphasized that "the constitution of the National Maritime Union must be binding on all its members, great or small, officials or non-officials." It asserted that the NMU "never had and never would accept leaders in the conduct of its internal affairs from any sources outside the union" but would be governed," in this instance, as in all others, by the provisions of the constitution."

The Council's statement concluded with these words:

"We, the members of the National Council know and love Ferdinand Smith.

"We know the great contribution he has made to his union, his people and his country.

"It is therefore with the deepest regreat that we accept his resignation.

"The fight for the progressive policies and program which Ferdinand Smith and the National Maritime Union have carried on in the past is not over. We will continue that struggle—with the aid and counsel of Ferdinand Smith."

By unanimous vote, the Council elected as pro tem secretary, Neal Hanley, recently elected a national director of the union.

CIO Spurs Political Fight For Full Negro Equality

Defender — Chicago, Ill.

10-21-44

By HENRY LEE MOON

Possibly the biggest controversy of the 1944 election campaign revolves around the Political Action Committee set up by the CIO. To get at the facts about PAC from first hand sources, the Defender asked Henry Lee Moon, Negro assistant to Chairman Sidney Hillman, to explain the purposes and operation of the committee. Moon is a former newspaperman who has worked for the Amsterdam News and New York Times. He has also been in the War Manpower Commission. 10-21-44

To the Negro citizens, the most significant development in the election of 1944 is the emergence of the Congress of Industrial Organizations as a potent political factor. Through its Political Action Committee, headed by the experienced and realistic Sidney Hillman, the CIO has already demonstrated its desire, its intent and its ability to carry on the fight for full equality for the Negro on the political front.

In this, it is simply accepting and recognizing its responsibility as the spearhead of the progressive movement—a responsibility which it has met on the economic front through consistent efforts to achieve full integration of Negroes into American industry.

Neither on the economic nor political front has the CIO been motivated by any sentimental concern for the Negro. Rather it recognizes that democracy is indivisible. Either we have democracy for all or the nation pays a fearful toll in social and economic values.

Whites Denied Ballot

The South affords the perfect example of the price a people must pay when they seek to limit democracy. In a self-defeating effort to disfranchise the Negro, the ballot has been denied to more whites than blacks. Exploitation of Negro workers has resulted in depressing the wages of all southern workers. The South suffers the lowest educational standards in the nation.

The total energies absorbed in keeping the Negro in "his place," causes the South to trail the nation in all social reforms. These disastrous ends have been achieved through the application of the doctrine of "State's Rights," now solemnly advocated by the Republican candidate for President, Governor Thomas E. Dewey. 10-21-44

Challenging this whole concept of limited democracy, of governleged few, the PAC has launched ment for the benefit of the privian intensive nationwide drive to get out the vote in the firm conviction that a large vote is a progressive vote, with complete faith in the basic soundness of the judgment of the American people.

PAC's Views

The PAC views the Negro as an integral part of the American people, artificially separated from the main currents of American life through three centuries of miseducation, propagation of specious doctrines of racial superiority, and institutionalized Jim Crow.

It is the obligation of the liberal movement to bridge this gap and bring all elements of the American people together for united resistance against entrenched social, economic and political reaction which inevitably fosters the growth of fascism. This obligation the PAC gladly accepts. 10-21-44

To achieve the unity essential to complete victory over Fascism at home as well as abroad, it is necessary to eliminate from positions of political power, those individuals who uphold the fascist doctrines of racism and isolationism, or who place property rights above human rights.

The PAC, through its local CIO membership and supporters, has contributed to the political demise of such isolationists as Senators Clark of Missouri, Holman of Oregon, and Clark of Idaho, and such race baiters as Senator "Cotton Ed" Smith of South Carolina, Representatives Joe Starnes of Alabama, Martin Dies of Texas, and others.

Spurs Liberalism

It has given encouragement to the development of true liberalism in the South by supporting such a man as Senator Claude Pepper of Florida, a co-sponsor of the anti-poll tax bill. It supported the candidacy of A. Clayton Powell, who will be New York's first Negro Congressman.

The contribution which PAC has made to the elimination of some of the worst Negro haters in Congress alone makes this movement of the utmost significance to Negro voters.

Throughout the South, the PAC has been engaged in an effort to increase the number of Negro voters. This movement has been stimulated by the Supreme Court decision in the Texas "white primary" case. Important gains have been made in certain districts of Alabama, Texas, Arkansas and Florida.

The broad objectives of PAC are simple and clear. They are:

(a) Swift and decisive victory in the war. 10-21-44

(b) A just and enduring peace, with an international organization embracing all peace-loving nations.

(c) Stable full production and full employment after the war.

(d) Equality of opportunity and full security for all Americans, regardless of race, color or creed. This means an end to all forms of segregation and discrimination in American life.

Sponsors Broad Committee

Aware that these objectives are the concern, not alone of organized labor, but of the whole American people, the CIO-PAC has sponsored the organization of the National Citizens Political Action Committee, the membership of which is composed of outstanding liberals and farm and labor leaders who believe with the CIO Political Action Committee that these objectives can best be achieved through the election of Roosevelt and Truman and a progressive Congress. 10-21-44

Among Negro members of the committee are Bishop R. R. Wright, Jr., vice-chairman; Robert C. Weaver, Paul Robeson, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Judge William H. Hastie, Roscoe Dunjee, Carter Wesley, P. B. Young, Canada Lee, Julian D. Steele, Dr. E. Franklin Frazier, Dr. Ira DeA. Reid, Willard Townsend, Dr. Metz T. Lochard, Dr. Channing H. Tobias, Rev. S. Corrothers, Captain Hugh Mulzac, Dr. William R. R. Granger, Langston Hughes, Melvin B. Tolson, Mrs. Rosa Cragg and B. V. Lawson.

Mr. Weaver, executive director of the Mayor's Committee on Racial Relations of Chicago, and Bishop Wright are members of the committee's executive board.

At is initial meeting on August 5, this board adopted a program which, among other things, declared: "We need a Congress which will make permanent the Fair Employment Practice Committee, established by President Roosevelt, and a Congress which will end Jim Crow practices in our armed forces." 10-21-44

Cites FDR Record

The PAC campaign for the reelection of Roosevelt is based soundly upon the record of his three-term administration. This is a progressive record which has brought benefits to the whole American people. The President himself has set forth the fundamentals of that program in his economic bill of rights.

With the support of a progressive Congress, the President will be able during his fourth term to lead the nation steadily forward towards these new goals.

Uncovering

Journal + Guide

Washington

Norfolk, Va. 8-19-44

A ROSE SMELLS the same, no matter what you call it.

That's true of men, too, where not always does the odor of the rose permeate the air.

Basically, for example, the CIO, in principle, is our most liberal labor organization. Its expressed policy and philosophy are against discrimination and prejudice. But some of the 6,000 whites who tied up the war production effort in Philadelphia until last week were members of the CIO. Of course, the CIO officials were violently opposed to the unauthorized strike. But some of the men participating in that travesty on democracy "smelled" no sweeter because they belonged to the CIO.

McALPIN

And the analogy goes over into government agencies, too. For example the Army took a forthright and commendable stand on the Philadelphia "tie-up." Its determination to operate the transportation vehicles and support the new hiring policy toward Negroes was affirmed by reopening of the training course last week for the eight Negroes over whom the 6,000 would-be Americans walked out. Still, it was a member of the Army who almost precipitated a real riot when he sought to enforce his Southern patterns on Philadelphia by separating the whites and Negroes on a bus he was "protecting." 8-19-44

But the most illustrative example of the "rose" smelling the same no matter what you call it, is the War Manpower Commission.

It was the insistence of the Philadelphia regional War Manpower Commission that the priority referral plan be followed in that area, involving hiring of workers without discrimination because of race, creed, color or national origin, which brought the Philadelphia Transit Company around to hiring and training Negroes. The company previously had defied a directive of the Fair Employment Practices Committee to do the same thing.

In Washington, however, wearing the same "cloak" of the WMC, the regional office of that agency has exempted the Capital Transit Company from compliance with the priority referral plain regulations.

The Capital Transit Company has been defying the FEPC for almost two years now. It has bluntly refused to hire Negroes as operators and platform men. It has admitted to the Labor-Management committee of the Area WMC that it knows the regulations but that it is not abiding by the portion on indiscriminate hiring. 8-19-44

But the area WMC, through its Labor-Management committee and the Area WMC director, Ernest V. Connolly, voted down all suggestions of holding Capital Transit to compliance with the WMC priority referral rules and regulations. They have given the company carte-blanche—permitting it to hire without clearing through the Employment Service by using its own recruitment methods and program.

Of course, the Capital Transit intends to hire only white men and women as operators and platform personnel.

GUILTY OF SABOTAGE

And so—even though the Washington area WMC is called the agency for obtaining maximum utilization of manpower—at a different stage—as Mc-tee. Dereliction of duty could for the war effort, it still smells Menamin, Carney, Thompson be added, and several more like what it really is—and that and Dixey, who led the Phila- serious ones probably could doesn't mean like a rose. delphia Transit employees strike proved.

The question is whether the in a five-day unauthorized walk- It will be interesting to see government and the people are out. what happens!

going to let them "get-away" Collusion with the Capital —HARRY McALPIN

with it. They are as guilty of Transit to keep Negroes out is a sabotaging the war effort thru mild charge to place against combatting full labor utilization Connolly and the members of the labor-management commit-

Unions have been a dilemma to Negroes in the past. We want unions. We need unions. However, an examination of the record reveals that in some instances, unions have been more of a hindrance than a help. These "guardians of the rights of the working men," through collusion with employers and the denial of membership

3-25-44

LABOR UNIONS, GOOD AND BAD

Chicago, Ill.

Defender

to black workers, have excluded us from employment in many fields.

The most flagrant of the offenders have been the five great unions which operate the railroads, the engineers, firemen, conductors, trainmen and switchmen. They not only deny membership to Negroes, but are driving the Negro firemen and trainmen of the South out of jobs that they have had for years. The black fireman still working is not "promotable," according to the union agreement with the railroad management. Instead of recognizing his seniority, which is usually regarded as sacred by all real unionists, he is at every opportunity reduced to lower levels and harder work. Some of these A.F.L. unions have Negroes confined to "auxiliary locals." They pay dues but have no voting rights as to their jobs, promotions, or even the management of the union.

The first real recognition of Negroes in the labor field came with the growth of the C.I.O. unions. Their constitutions contain such declarations as the pledge to "unite" all workers within their jurisdiction "into one organization regardless of religion, race, creed, color, political affiliation or nationality." The spirit and word of this constitution is upheld. 3-25-44

During the strike at the Packard plant in Detroit, because of the upgrading of Negro workers, R. J. Thomas, national president of the United Automobile Workers, C.I.O., issued a statement which is a Magna Charta for black workers. He said: "Negroes pay a dollar a month dues, the same as other members of this union. Negroes have the same right as other members to be upgraded. I have given an ultimatum to the Packard workers that they must go back to work. If it means that some white workers are going to get fired from their jobs, then that's exactly what is going to happen." The strikers went back to work. Courageous and straightforward ultimatums like this are the only methods by which the erstwhile southern fascist members of a union will learn the meaning of the word democracy.

This is the type of a labor union that the Negro needs. It is a safeguard, not a barrier. 3-25-44

Some of the A.F.L. unions have been mindful of their obligations to Negroes. The Bricklayers and Operative Plasterers, promise in their constitution to fine any member $100 if he refuses to work alongside another member because of race. A signal honor was attained when William Green, A.F.L. president, recently announced that A. Philip Randolph was to be the principal speaker at a meeting of the Tennessee Federation of Labor this April.

These events show some improvement on the A.F.L. front, but we wonder how much is due to the pressure created by the popularity of the C.I.O. among Negroes. When both organizations are weighed on the same scale, and measured in terms of fighting discrimination, fighting for social betterment and fighting for real Americanism, so far the balance swings heavily in favor of the C.I.O.

Forget Prejudice, Ga. Workers Told,

Afro-American-Baltimore, 7-29-44

ATLANTA (ANP)—Predicting that more and more skilled jobs at the huge Bell Bomber Plant here will be filled by colored workers, A. Bruce Hunt, Southeastern FEPC director, Tuesday, urged CIO union shop stewards and officers to "cast away your prejudices in favor of the interests of your nation and your union."

With the aid of several thousand votes from colored workers at the Bell plant, which builds the massive B-29 bomber, the United Auto Workers last spring won exclusive bargaining rights at the plant in a close election over the International Machinists' Union, AFL.

"Perhaps some of you at first would be inclined to oppose the hiring or upgrading of colored persons to skilled jobs at Bell," Mr. Hunt asserted. Speaking on the UAW-CIO's effort to eliminate discrimination in employment, he said: 7-29-44

Says Race Unity Vital

"Those of us who have been active in the labor movement in the South have come to realize why labor is more exploited here than in other areas, why standards of living are lower here and why the working man in other areas is better off than the working man here.

"Failure of the white worker to understand that he has a very definite interest in the welfare of the colored worker has enabled employers to play one race against the other, to decrease the white man's wages by pointing out that colored people can be hired cheaper, and by employing that labor which is cheapest without regard to race.

"Until the white worker and the colored worker realize that they must stand together, or fall separately, the wages of both will be low and employers will continue to profit by their rivalry. The white worker cannot rise unless the colored worker rises too.

Harlem Beauty Culturists to Join With CIO

New York, N.Y.

Operators Take First Step To Form Trade Union Local And Expect Charter Soon

BY JAMES CASEY

Harlem will soon have its first bonafide labor union for beauticians, Ernest Commodore, a CIO representative, told the Amsterdam News, Tuesday. 10-25-44

"We have secured the necessary number of beauticians' signatures," Commodore asserted, "and have applied to the Barbers' and Beauty Culturists' Union of America (CIO) for a charter. We expect to receive the charter within the next ten days."

This action brought to a swift climax one of the most hotly debated issues among uptown beauty circles—the question as to whether Harlem operators should attempt to maintain their challenged status as "independent professionals," or whether they should affiliate themselves with a strong labor organization for their mutual protection. 10-21-44

Informed sources pointed out that this new development in the economic phase of the beauty business among Negroes came as a direct result of efforts of certain segments among Harlem operators to protect themselves from what they fear will be the "evil" effects of the Health Department's recent directive against the subletting of booths.

The formation of the new union will represent the first time that a body of Negro beauticians have affiliated themselves with any labor organization in the country. Mr. Commodore revealed. "beauticians' local in Harlem will share with the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters the distinction of being the only all-Negro union associated with either of the major American labor organizations," he explained.

CIO Union To Have Non-Bias Clause In All Future Contracts

Age—New York, 10-12-44 N.Y.

NEWRK, N. J. — An important step forward in the CIO's campaign to end job discrimination on the basis of race, creed or color, was taken by the recent convention of the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers of America when it voted to negotiate for an anti-discrimination clause in all future contracts with employers.

Leadership in the move to write fair employment practices into the contracts was credited to Arthur Chapin of Local 1, Camden, N. J., which passed the resolution on the subject at a session of its own and instructed delegates to submit it to the international convention at Atlantic City. The measure won unanimous approval. 10-14-44

The proposed contract clause states that "the corportaion pledges that it will not discriminate in the hire, training, upgrading, conditions of work, or tenure of any worker by reason of that worker's race, creed, color or national origin, and that it will not tolerate any such discrimination on the part of it's supervision."

Ferd Smith Resigns As Union Head

Amsterdam News

New York, N.Y.

NMU Officials Commend His Work As Labor Chief

The resignation of Ferdinand C. Smith as national secretary of the National Maritime Union was accepted by officials of that organization, last week, during a meeting at local headquarters, 346 West 17th Street. 11-25-44

On the heels of this action the union's National Council unanimously hailed Mr. Smith as an outstanding labor leader, and emphasized the fact that reactionary newspapers had "launched an attack on Smith's status as a citizen and a leader of his Union" precisely at a moment when the union was sending him on what proved to be a highly successful nation-wide tour to inform the Negro voting public on the issues which faced the country during the recent elections.

In his statement of resignation, Mr. Smith pointed out the fact that "As a responsible leader of the Union, it is my duty to do all in my power to see to it that the provisions of the Constitution are held inviolate. With that in mind, my course of action is clear. I must take that step which will make it impossible for this issue to be utilized by forces hostile to the Union to split or weaken the Union in any way."

Joseph Curran, NMU president, agreed that Smith actually was in violation of the union's constitution. He said that Smith had entered the United States legally in 1918, had filed his intention to become a citizen in 1920, but that Smith had been frequently at sea and had failed to complete the necessary legal steps to secure his citizenship papers.

A statement by the union's National Council declared, in part: "We, the members of the National Council, know and love Ferdinand Smith. The fight for the progressive policies and program which Ferdinand Smith and the National Maritime Union have carried on in the past is not over. We will continue that struggle—with the aid and counsel of Ferdinand Smith."

Phila. Transit Union Elects Negro Officer

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.

10-13-44

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 11.—With 2,200 voting, the CIO Transport Workers Union here elected Maxwell Windham, a Negro, one of four vice-presidents of Local 234, which represents workers at Philadelphia Transportation Co.

James Fitzsimon, international TWU vice-president, said the election results constituted a repudiation of the "white supremacy" strike over upgrading Negroes which paralyzed Philadelphia transport last August. Results also refute the findings of the "Republican-dominated" Federal grand jury which blamed the CIO for the strike and indicted seven whom the union will defend as innocent, Fitzsimon said.

One of the seven, James McEnany, a motorman at the Callow Hill Barn, was also elected vice-president of the local.

Other officers are: Joseph B. Dougherty, bus operator, president; Michael Wootten and Leon Shalit, vice-presidents; Joseph R. Marks, financial secretary, and Anthony Gallagher, recording secretary. Dougherty, Marks and Gallagher were among the local's founders. They were active in the entire TWU movement to terminate the strike as quickly as possible and resume operation of the transit lines.

CIO Convention Applauds "White Primary" Decision

Informer — Houston, Texas
4-29-44

DALLAS.—During the CIO convention held here in the Adolphus Hotel, resolutions were passed on Discrimination, U. S. "White Primary" decision and Women in Industry. Serving on the Resolution Comittee was Alonzo Nelms, Fort Worth. There were several other brothers who attend the meeting.

Excerpts from the resolutions are as follows:

Discrimination against any individual or groups of people because of race, religion or country of origin is an evil characteristic of fascist enemies. We of the democracies are fighting fascism at home and abroad—

Any discriminatory practices within our own ranks against any group directly aids the enemy.

Resolved that the CIO:

1. Reiterates its firm opposition to any form of racial or religious discrimination and renews its pledge to carry on the fight for protection in law and in fact of the right of any racial and religious or minority group to participate fully in our social and political life.

4-29-44

Supports Concern for Negro Servicemen

2. The CIO gives its full support in the fight for the proper concern for democratic treatment in the army of brother Americans of Negro origin. 3. Commends the work of the Fair Employment Practices Committee established by President Roosevelt under executive order to eliminate practices of discrimination in industry, and urges such committee to carry forward vigorously to effectuate this vital policy. 4 Commends President Murray for establishing the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, and urges all CIO affiliated unions to maintain and increase their support of the work of this committee as an essential part of the day-to-day operation of the CIO.

4-29-44

5. Calls upon President Roosevelt and the Department of Justice to take immediate steps to prosecute those individuals and groups within the nation, such as the Ku Klux Klan, which deliberately seek to foment civil strife and discord by setting one race against another whipping up hatred against minority groups and encouraging discrimination. 6. Rededicates itself to continue with determination its efforts to elminate completely the economic factors which are the fundamental causes of discrimination in its most vicious form. 7 Calls upon President Roosevelt, as Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces to effect by executive decree an end to the racial army policy of jim crow segregation of Negro troops and insure equal treatment of all Americans regardless of race or color, as the laws of the land properly guarantee.

"White Primary Decision"

Whereas, the U. S. Supreme Court, in its recent decision on the Texas "White Primary" case, has made it possible for 500,000 citizens of Texas, heretofore denied their constitutional rights to participate in the selection of Texas' representatives in the State and Federal governments. This decision creates the conditions for extending democracy in Texas, a purpose for which the Texas CIO has fought continuously.

4-29-44

This "White Primary" decision ends political racial discrimination against the Negro people. This decision eliminates the racial issue from the political life of our state and makes parties and their leaders responsible for their actions based on their programs and activities. It makes it possible for the people of Texas to select their governmental representatives on their merits and their platforms without the confusing injection of the racial issue.

4-29-44

The CIO is opposed to any political or economic discrimination because of race, color or creed.

Be it resolved that this convention of the Texas CIO applauds and endorses the "White Primary" decision of the U. S. Supreme Court and be it further resolved that the Texas CIO will do every thing in its power to see to it that this Supreme Court decision is enforced in the political life of our state.

Recognizes Need of Women In Industry

Recognizing the fact that full production will require the employment of millions of women who have not been employed the following resolutions were passed: that every effort be made to establish in all communities child welfare commissions consisting of representatives of labor, heatlh, welfare and educational groups to work for adequate child care centers and that federal and state funds be allocated for this purpose.

Be it further resolved that all discrimination against the employment of women in industry must cease and that there be no discrimination against women within our unions, and that women must receive equal pay for equal work.

Union Protests Framing Man on Assault Charge

Peoples Voice — New York, N. Y.
9-30-44

PHILADELPHIA — A nation-wide campaign to protest the frameup of William DeBerry, young Negro CIO organizer of the famous R. J. Reynolds (Camel) plant in Winston-Salem, N. C., has begun with a call to members and friends of organized labor to lend their support. Charged with assaulting a white woman, Louise Johnson, member of the company-union, DeBerry was sentenced to 60 days on the road.

"This is not primarily a race issue, but an attempt to smash a successfully growing union by provoking race riot and disruption," stated Donald Henderson, president of the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America (CIO), which organized the Reynolds plant.

The Reynolds workers, recently chartered as Local 22, UCAPAWA-CIO, are firmly convinced of DeBerry's innocence.

9-30-44

The Union's DeBerry Defense Committee urges letters and resolutions to be sent to George W. Coan, jr, mayor of Winston-Salem, and to Governor Joseph M. Broughton, Raleigh, N.C., to see that the proper steps are taken to insure justice in the courts. Contributions to defray the expenses of the court appeals should be sent to UCAPAWA-CIO, 1505 Race st, Phila. 2, Pa.

Phila. Transit Union Elects Negro Vice-Pres.

The Worker — New York, N. Y.
10-22-44

PHILADELPHIA.—White supremacy, and the Grand Jury's whitewash of the higher-ups in last summer's transit plot, took a beating last week when the CIO Transport Workers quietly chose a Negro vice-president and four Negroes as Executive Board members over white contestants.

Maxwell Windham, a young welder, was one of four vice president's elected out of six contenders. He comes from a transit and a CIO family. His father, a TWU member, was employed by the Philadelphia Transportation Company until his recent death. Windham was with the company for nine years. He was one of the first to join the TWU, and won general respect for his outstanding organizing job, signing up hundreds of white as well as Negro workers.

4 OTHERS ELECTED

The four Negroes elected to the Executive Board were likewise chosen over white contestants. They were among 15 elected from the maintenance department out of 20 on the ballot.

10-22-44

The Grand Jury, which members disclosed had a 19 to 2 extreme GOP bias, has been condemned by almost everyone except the most rabid Deweyites. The Pittsburgh Post Gazette, one of the state's leading papers, and a Dewey supporter, for example, severely criticized the Grand Jury. So did all the Negro press which is supporting Dewey. The Afro-American heads a front page round-up of condemnation by outstanding citizens: "PTC Grand Jury Evaded Real Issue, Citizens Agree."

10-22-44

The non-partisan criticism reached a high when the Evening Bulletin, which likes Dewey, reported last Saturday that the five judges of the U. S. District Court were considering a proposal to change drastically the blue ribbon method of selecting grand and petit juries.

The story, which disappeared in later editions, said "the move resulted from displeasure voiced by some of the district court judges with the report brought in by the Grand Jury." One judge was anonymously quoted: "There are too many blue ribbon jurors and not enough working people represented on the Federal panels . . . we have had too many top-heavy verdicts which definitely should not have been."

10-22-44

The court includes Judge George A. Welsh, whose suspicions, when he charged the jury, that the transit tieup was a plot to influence the presidential election, have been strengthened by the Grand Jury whitewash, and the remarks of Mrs. Hugh Scott, wife of the Dewey

IT BACKFIRED

Thus the Grand Jury attempt to act as Dewey campaigners is boomeranging, somewhat as the strike plot boomeranged last August when the President's firm action on as operators.

People see before them, against Congressman. the efforts of the most rabid Deweyites, Negro operators in the trolleys, presidential support of the FEPC, and now five Negroes quietly elected to leading positions by one of the staunchest supporters of the President's policies in the country, the Transport Workers Union, CIO.

New Jersey CIO Mourns Willkie, Urges Study on Negro Seniority

Daily Worker — New York, N. Y.
10-9-44

By JOHN MELLON

NEWARK, N. J., Oct. 8.—Delegates to the seventh annual convention of the New Jersey Industrial Union Council, meeting at the Essex Hotel here today, rose in silent tribute to the passing of Wendell L. Willkie.

They unanimously lauded Willkie's "great qualities of citizenship not only in devotion to the interest of his own country but to the cause of international understanding and cooperation toward a permanent peace and world security."

Meanwhile the convention became the first body of organized labor to tackle the problem of wartime seniority for Negroes and women in industry.

Typical of the sentiments expressed was a speech by David Elliott of CIO Gas, Coke and Chemical Workers, an industry with a high percentage of Negro workers. Elliott declared:

"We must recognize that the simple, mechanical application of the seniority laws would weaken the unity of labor. Deep thinking is necessary on this subject as no one can offer a ready-made blueprint.

10-9-44

"In speaking for this resolution I recognize the need for further study to find ways and means in order that the last one hired will not be the first one fired. It is essential that those workers among the

minority groups, especially the Negroes, who have come into the war industries, and those who have been promoted or upgraded to better jobs, shall not be forced to go back to their old jobs as porters or janitors.

"The labor tradition of no discrimination and rigid seniority rights alone will not solve the problem. In considering this question we must be aware of the machinations of certain employers who want to split the unity of labor and the unity of the nation."

Other delegates, took essentially the same position. The final decision of the convention on the seniority issue, in resolution form, called for the immediate establishment of special committes in local and international unions "to study this important postwar problem and make recommendation" for a solution.

10-9-44

The convention warned that "should the special problems of these workers be neglected during the reconversion period, every disrupter, every union, baiter, every reactionary will attempt to use the conditions that these workers would have to face for the purpose of disrupting national unity. . . ."

ELECTED

New York — First Negro ever elected to a national office of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, third largest CIO union, is PHILIP JONES, above, of St. Louis, elected at the recently concluded international convention of the union, held here.

Mr. Jones, chief steward at the U. S. Cartridge company in St. Louis, is one of the leading members of USE local 825. He was one of three elected trustees chosen at the convention.

Treasurer Charges Boat Workers' Union 'Squandered' Big Sum

Courier Journal — Louisville, Ky.

9-20-44

Says $112,915 Was Spent In 8 Months

On the eve of being drafted into the Army, Frederick Marrero, 30, Negro, recording secretary and treasurer of the C.I.O. union at Jeffersonville Boat & Machine Company, charged last night the union's funds totaling $112,915.16 during the past eight months had been "squandered."

Marrero, who also is vice president of the Kentucky State C.I.O. Industrial Union Council, said he warned the union in a report in April that it was "going in the red because of wild expenditures" and that in August it spent $163.51 more than the $13,157.76 received in dues and initiation fees.

9-20-44

Finn Put In Charge.

The autonomy of the local, the Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, No. 65, was suspended by the Camden, N. J., national headquarters two weeks ago, and Martin Finn, Cincinnati regional representative of the union, was put in charge as director. The union represents about 8,000 workers at the boat works.

Marrero, father of three children, was employed at the shipyard as a burner, first class, at $65 a week. He said as a union official he received $45 a month expenses but no salary and that he spent about twenty hours a week on union activities.

"I want to make it clear that I bear no malice against anyone in the union," said Marrero, "but I believe that this report should be made to the members of the union and to the public. They are entitled to it."

Glad to Join Army.

Marrero, a native of New Orleans who worked as a laborer on the L. & N. Railroad here two years before going to the shipyard in December, 1942, said he was "glad of the chance to get into the Army because I've got mighty tough working over in the yard." He said he was making the financial report "because the others are afraid to make it."

9-20-44

C.-J. Photo.

FREDERICK MARRERO
Says union funds wasted

9-20-44

The union treasurer said the president of the union, Mickey Walker, received $75 a week and expenses, and that Frank Bruno, the vice president, was on the pay roll "against the constitutional regulations," at $82 a week. The financial secretary receives $70 a week, Marrero added.

"We have the highest paid office help in the Louisville area," Marrero said, citing the pay of $35 a week for "just checking reports" and $50 a week "for just taking shorthand and typing letters and reports."

$2,000 Monthly Pay Roll.

The pay roll of the union local was running around $2,000 a month, Marrero said, and union workers taken from the shipyard "just to go out and help buy furniture for the office" received as high as $20 a day for "lost-time pay."

9-20-44

Negotiations by the 7-member union committee, of which he was one, with the shipyard management for a new contract last winter cost the union $5,000, Marrero said, "because our vice president, Frank Bruno, kept stalling around." He said the negotiations shouldn't have cost the union "over $1,000 or $1,500" in "lost-time" payments to the negotiators.

The union spent $2,700 on softball equipment, Marrero said, "enough to buy a good pitcher for the Colonels," then debated over buying "one $15,000 war bond," which he said was the only bond it had purchased "when we could have bought three or four more like it." The war bond was not included in the operating expenses he cited.

9-20-44

Protests Go Unheeded.

Marrero said he repeatedly "spoke out" against the "wild spending" and that he offered his resignation to take effect June 30. He produced a copy of the resolution in which he told the union membership that "As treasurer of this local it is my duty to see that expenditures upon this treasury are kept to a minimum, but I only have the power to recommend that this be done and in the past it has not been done nor is it being done at this moment."

Union receipts are estimated at $11,000 for September, Marrero said, and expenses almost twice that. The books, he added, have been taken over by Finn, as director, who appointed Bruno as his assistant.

The union receives $10 for initiation for new members, Marrero said, and $9 of that remains in the local's treasury. It receives $1.25 a month dues, of which 70 cents is kept in the local's treasury.

9-20-44

$27,880 Taken In April.

Marrero listed the union's expenditures for the past eight months as follows: January, $3,517.02; February, $9,212.10; March, $7,803.13; April, $11,051.93; May, $14,423.79; June, $11,941.57 (not including the $15,000 War Bond); July, $11,165.67, and August, $13,157.76.

The biggest month of receipts was April, with $27,880 in dues and initiation fees, Marrero said, "enough funds to run the union for a year on a sound basis."

Florida CIO Pledges Aid to 3 Negro Youths

Daily Worker — New York, N. Y.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Sept. 19.—The Florida State CIO Council yesterday pledged a campaign for justice to the three Negro youths recently sentenced to death for "rape." The youths' "trial" lasted 80 minutes.

9-20-44

The Victims of this Florida "justice" were James Davis, 16; Fred Lane, 19, and James Williams, 26.

Execution date had been set for Sept. 18 by Gov. Spessard L. Holland, whose attorney general, J. Tom Watson, then ruled that the customary 60-day stay would not operate.

The 60-day stay of execution was granted, however, following a rising tide of protest and Watson's reinterpretation of the law.

URGENT CONTINUED ACTION

"We urge all people," it was stated by Charles N. Smolikoff, state organizer of the Florida CIO Council, "to make their sentiments known via wires, letters, petitions to Governor Spessard Holland, asking him to insure that the constitutional rights of the three Negro boys condemned to death in a lynch-atmosphere be guaranteed while an appeal is being taken.

9-20-44

Smolikoff said that Attorney General Watson is sponsor of the Florida bill to "illegalize closed shops." The bill is sponsored by fascist-Ku Klux-Christian American Association.

9-20-44

Beauty Shop Owners Organize to Join CIO

People's Voice — New York, N.Y. 9-30-44

Monday night about 300 members of the Shop Owners Association met at 280 Lenox av, and following the new trend of labor-management cooperation, agreed to affiliate themselves with the CIO and to encourage the immediate organization of the employees of all their shops. This was considered the first step toward a constructive solution of the complete muddle Harlem beauty shops —owners and operators — have been thrown into since the Commissioner of Health announced recently that the Health Department will abolish the old unlawful practice of booth-renting.

CIO representative, Ernest Commodore who addressed the meeting, answered the attack on labor and government by Alan Dingle, attorney for independent operators opposing this new regulation. Mr. Commodore said that "only ignorance of the purpose and history of organized labor would permit such an unworthy attack, and that the purpose of the law enforcement and the efforts of serious and public-minded people to adjust this inevitable change are only to stabilize the industry both in the interest of the beauticians and the public welfare."

9-30-44

At a similar meeting on Sunday afternoon, Charles A. Collins of the Negro Labor Victory Committee, declared: "Dingle is confusing the issue by his demagogic attack upon the Health Department, government Social Security, and organized labor. The problem that faces the beauticians can be summed up simply." He outlined the problem as follows:

- There has to be some responsible management in each beauty shop to be held accountable for sanitary conditions;
- There must be unemployment insurance, social security, and workmen's compensation insurance;
- the establishment of the closest relationship between operators and owners;

9-30-44

- Operators must in a concerted way take steps to see to it that if booth-renting is prohibited that their present earning-power be safeguarded and improved;
- Shopowners must combine to see to it that their shops are well equipped and that safety and health regulations are installed, and that proper business arrangements be arrived at.

Monday night's meeting of the Shop Owners Association seemed to cover every point in Mr. Collin's proposed solution. A central committee was formed to draw up a plan to be offered to operators undergoing the transition of status that will protect their presently acquired good-will and earning-power.

Hall Refused for Robeson

Afro American Baltimore, Md. 9-30-44

BALTIMORE. — The Lyric Theater has refused the National Maritime Union, CIO, permission to hold its May 28 celebration honoring merchant seamen, and featuring Paul Robeson, Broadway star of Othello, there, it was revealed this week. 3-18-44

James Drury, NMU port agent, made public correspondence he has had during the past month with Frederick Huber, managing director of the theater, who has informed him that the theater is "not available."

In a letter to Mayor McKeldin, last week, Mr. Drury charged that refusal of the theatre's executive committee to grant the NMU a date was due to Mr. Huber's bias against colored people and labor unions. The mayor has asked the theater to reconsider its action.

Consistent Nazi Pattern

Although the Lyric has not made a definite statement of policy, it has been the practice in recent years to deny the use of the hall to colored groups and artists.

Two months ago, the manager for Anne W. Brown, former star of "Porgy and Bess," was granted several dates for Miss Brown to appear here, but when it was learned that he was booking a colored artist, the theater said no dates were available. As a result, Miss Brown's concert will be held at Enon Baptist Church, March 19.

In February, 1942, the AFRO was granted several dates for its benefit fashion show, but two days after arrangements were completed, managers of the show were informed that the hall was not available. 3-18-44

Plan Rally for F.D.R.

In addition to being a celebration honoring merchant seamer, it has been learned that the NMU event will be a rally urging reelection of President Roosevelt, and word has gone out that NMU members should support F.D.

One official said that the meeting is designed to offset a "strong trend" towards support of the GOP in the coming Presidential election by the AFRO and to halt efforts of some CIO leaders to maintain separate bargaining right for colored workers.

Negro Vice President!

Philadelphia, Pa.—Maxwell Windham, a Negro, has been elected vice-president of Local 234, Transport Workers Union (CIO), members of which went on a 10-day wildcat strike early in August over the upgrading of Negroes to streetcar and bus operators.

The Union—Cincinnati, Ohio

In addition to Windham, four other Negroes were elected to the local's executive board. 10-19-44

TWU is bargaining agent for employees of the Philadelphia Transportation Co. Officials, both local and national, of the union fought the unauthorized walkout and deplored the racial phase of it.

10-19-44

NEW YORK—First Negro ever elected to a national office of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America, third largest CIO union, is Philip Jones of St. Louis, who was elected at the recently concluded international convention of the union held here.

Mr. Jones, chief steward of the U. S. Cartridge company in St. Louis, is one of the leading members of UE local 825. He was one of three elected trustees chosen at the convention.

Mr. Jones is one of the 3,000 Negroes working at the St. Louis plant. Before the UE-CIO organized the shop, according to Mr. Jones, there were only 300 Negroes employed there. A native of Natchez, Mississippi, the new union official is a strong believer in education as a means of bettering the welfare of the people.

1ST NEGRO OFFICER OF UE-CIO

Tribune — Savannah, Ga.

gether lived up to, by tr Constitution of the United States of America. I regard this work, this particular work of protecting and advancing the cause of the Negro, as a holy and noble work, the kind of a work that all right thinking citizens, regardless of their status in life or their affiliation with other groups.

ng to Mr. Jones, there were only 300 Negroes employed there. A native of Natchez, Mississippi, the new union official is a strong believer in education as a means of bettering he welfare of the people.

10-16-44

PM — N.Y., N.Y. 10-16-

Joseph B. Daugherty, new president of the Philadelphia local of TWU-CIO, congratulates Max Windham, elected with him as vice president. In the background are other officials elected: Max Wootten, Anthony Gallagher, Leon Shallit (vice-presidents) Joseph R. Marks (secretary-treasurer).

Anti-Discrimination Resolution Adopted At CIO Convention

Daily Review — Chicago, Ill.

CHICAGO — (PPNS) — The seventh annual convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations closed here this week after completig their agenda, which struck hard and determinedly at the evils of jim crowism practised by labor organizations. Phillip Murray, CIO President extended an invitation to all Negro workers to seek "affiliation with CIO organizations" to aid in the fight being waged to bring about "eco-

...selves to the mere adop... of resolutions in meetings of ...s kind; we make those resolu... effective and workable. This ...ganization is the home of the ...rsecuted. This organization of... ...s to the Negro things that have ...been guaranteed him, but not alto-

Philadelphia Transit Workers Take a Second Look

Pm — New York, N. Y.

Men Who Struck in August Elect a Negro Leader in October

10-16-44

By VICTOR H. BERNSTEIN

Staff Correspondent

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 16.—Last August the transit workers tied up this great war production center for a week in a strike ostensibly protesting the upgrading of a half-dozen Negroes to operators' jobs.

Last week a lot of these same workers turned right around and elected five Negroes as officers of their union, one of them as a vice president.

I'm here to try and find out how come, and to discover whether there are likely to be any unpleasant repercussions to the election anywhere along the line.

These are, of course, very important questions. Because what's happened here is bigger than the fate of a few individuals, or of a union local, or of a big transit company.

The Stakes

It involves the whole nature and extent of anti-Negro prejudice, at least in the North. And it spotlights, on the one hand, the role of the trades union in democratic progress; and, on the other, the role that an organized minority can play in wrecking such progress.

I spent several hours talking to rank-and-file employes, union and non-union, of the Philadelphia Transit Co. I met most of the men in the Lucerne car barn, a key point in the picture I am trying to draw.

10-16-44

Believe-It-Or-Not Ripley says Lucerne is the biggest car barn in the world. It was certainly the toughest, from a CIO union point of view, to crack. The barn, with 1000 workers, had been used as a repository by the company for "loyal" workers—anti-CIO and pro-company union men. It was used as principle headquarters for the strike leaders last August.

It was from a soap-box in a lot across the street, that James McMenamin, a non-union man and most violent of the strike leaders, had howled last August that he didn't like niggers because they got bed bugs." And it was the users of this car barn—the motormen and conductors of Philadelphia's trolley lines—who were most directly involved by the Negroes' demand for upgrading to the job of operators.

Election Results

Well, in this barn, where a Negro shouldn't by normal reasoning have had a ghost of a show for election to anything, 85 per cent of all the men voting voted for the Negro Max Windham as one of four vice presidents.

10-16-44

Actually, about 500 of the 1000 men working in the barn voted as qualified union members. Of these, Windham got 418, only 44 fewer than Max Wooten, who topped the administration slate for the vice-presidential office. And he got 298 votes more than James McEneany, who came in fourth and was also elected.

There were two defeated candidates, both put up by the opposition to the administration slate. One got 50 votes, the other 51.

What had happened in this barn since last August, when it had taken the U. S. Army to put these fellows back to work? I went around asking questions. The answers of the non-union men were generally brief. They could be summed up as follows:

"Nothin's happened. I got nothin' to do with the union. There's no skin off my bones if the union wants a colored vice-president.

"No, there's been no trouble with the colored fellers who are runnin' cars now. I don't bother with 'em; they don't bother with me."

I asked:

10-16-44

"If that's the way you feel now, why'd you go out on strike last August?"

Some of the non-union men wouldn't answer that at all. They just walked off. I think you could put them down as confirmed Negro-baiters. But some of the other men gave illuminating answers.

One said, "Well, I thought the niggers was goin' to take away our seniority."

Another said, "Hell, what would *you* do if everybody else stopped workin'? Don't you know them trolleys has got glass fronts? D'ye know what a brick could do to the operator?"

Union's Answer

The union members were more explicit. Here's the statement of one of them. I give it intact, because it embodies more or less all that was said to me by a half-dozen union rank-and-file.

10-16-44

"I voted for Windham," this man said, "because he was on the administration slate. I know Windham was active in organizin' the union, and I don't see why I shouldn't vote for him on account he's a Negro. I could vote for lots of white men I know, and they just wouldn't be good union leaders.

"Look, dont get me wrong. I ain't no nigger-lover. But I'm a union man, and we can't have no strong union if we get started fightin' among ourselves about things that just don't make no difference.

"All right. Now you know why I went out on strike last August. Listen, mister, that was no strike; it was practically a lock-out. You got to know how things work here

James J. Fitzsimon, International Vice-President, TWU-CIO, who played an important role in he building up of the Philadelphia local.

to understand that. If the company men really wanted to get the cars out of the barn, they could'a done it. Lots of cars, anyway.

"Take my case. I go off duty Monday night, like usual, and I don't hear nothin' about a strike, or trouble, or anything. I come up to report Tuesday mornin' and there's a bunch of fellows meet me right outside and tell me, 'Everybody's reportin' sick. This is the day the niggers is supposed to take cars out on the street.'

"Well, I go inside to the window, and the fellow whose supposed to gimme my run, he's a company man, he tells me there's no cars goin' out, everybody's reportin' sick. So what the hell. I don't argue.

10-16-44

Windham Not Surprised

"Yes. I stay out a week. I'm no hero. Why should I buck the mob?"

The mob. It comes back to the mob. Who was the mob? Well, some of them are undoubtedly among the 30 men who've been indicted as the strike leaders. McMenamin is one of them. But reporters know that, at the time, these leaders had some vociferous supporters, fellows who whistled and cat-called whenever a strike leader mentioned the word "nigger."

Lacking evidence to the contrary, some of these fellows are still around. In the Lucerne car barn. In the Cumberland barn. At the garages. But they aren't making trouble now. They aren't opening their mouths to any reporters. I doubt if they're opening their mouths to anyone except to each other. They're a zero quantity until they get leaders, until they are stirred up.

10-16-44

I talked to Max Windham, the Negro who was elected vice-president. He's a good looking, soft-spoken fellow of 31, father of two children. He was a garage worker and came to the PTC about six years ago. He is a welder.

"Look," he said, "I'm not surprised I was elected. Only if a fellow figures the strike last August was just on account of this race business will he be surprised. But I know the race business was just a phony, a trick to bust up our union.

"I'm not sayin' there's not a lot of fellers, in the union, and outside, who don't like Negroes. That ain't the point. The point is that ordinary-like these fellows wouldn't go out of their way to hurt me. They never have before. I always got along all right with them.

"No, I don't think I'll have any trouble. I'm not lookin' for any. I'll try to do my union job the best I know how."

One of the things that interested me was why the union, which has been the recognized collective bargaining agency for PTC workers only since last March, was willing to press the Negro issue so soon after last August's trouble. I asked James Dougherty, the president, about that.

10-16-44

He made his point quickly.

"We didn't press any issue. CIO policy and TWU policy is non-discrimination. All right. There's 800 or 900 Negroes working for PTC. They got a right to representation. We figured one of our vice presidents ought to be from the Maintenance of Way Dept. That's where Windham comes from. That's why we put him on the slate.

"I think its a mistake for you to write a piece especially about Widnham's a good union worker, just like we all are in this office. That's all there is to it.

But that isn't all there is to it. I spoke to other vice presidents and to some of the 30 executive board members just elected (four of the 30 are Negroes). I talked to James Fitzsimon, international vice president, who has been working in the field in Philadelphia.

10-16-44

I gather that the union is now beginning to feel its real strength. It won the NLRB election last March by a vote of more than two to one. The August strike, which the union leadership violently opposed, put it in a spot. It could back down on its constitution and on the CIO constitution, and appease the factions which were clamoring about the race issue. Or it could meet foursquare the whole unity issue.

The union chose to do the latter. It is not by accident that of the four vice presidents elected, one is a Protestant, one a Catholic, one a Negro and one a Jew. Men like David Reick, section chairman from the Lucerne barn, went out and worked for the ticket. And the ticket won.

But it is more than a TWU victory or a CIO victory. It is a victory for the trades union movement. It is a victory for the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, which had played a vital role in the upgrading of Negroes on PTC.

10-16-44

There is one thing, now, that I should like to see happen that won't happen. That is for the Southern reactionary press, which played up the August strike as proof that the damyankees, too, hate the Negroes, to take another look at what has happened in Philadelphia.

35k-1944

CIO

I WRITE AS I SEE

Tribune-Phila., Pa.
3-18-44

By Arthur Huff Fauset

PTC: NOW IT MAY BE TOLD

IF OUR PUBLIC has imagined that the NAACP Action Committee on PTC has folded up, it is greatly mistaken. The quiet of the past six weeks has been neither an armistice nor a fade-out; it was a strategic withdrawal in order to give the unions which were struggling for supremacy on the PTC lots an opportunity to carry on with their elections without benefit of the type of race acrimony which might throw victory into the lap of one of the unions which could exploit the black and white issue. Because the Negro people were hoping and praying for a CIO victory, your Action Committee decided weeks ago to lie low until after the election in order to give CIO a chance to win on the merits of true trade unionism, instead of having to battle the Negro question, which was precisely the kind of issue the Company Union needed and wanted in order to continue their foul hold on the PTC workers.

FAUSET

Now you see the kind of strategy which we Negroes are beginning to learn how to employ. Your true leaders will fight for you and with you fearlessly and fanatically against the enemy at such times as this kind of fighting is profitable. At other times, when cool heads are required, and when quiet is the order of the day, your true leaders will not hesitate to lie low, or even if necessary beat a strategic retreat. We know that some will claim that we have fallen down on the job, or quit, or even sold out—but we are not afraid of taunts, threats or accusations. Your true leaders work according to a broad plan, and they will not be distracted from the broad plan merely to placate hot heads or for the sake of beating the winds. Your true leaders are out to WIN—and they pick their battles according to their own choosing, not the choosing of super-masters. 3-18-44

THE FIGHT IS RESUMED

And now the union election is over. This part of our strategy may be revealed. What next? We go from this point once more into vigorous battle. No more can PTC drag the red herring of race prejudice among the workers into this issue. The fight now may be waged on the plane of broad democracy and speedy victory in the war effort. There can be no defeat in these issues..

At the huge mass meeting of PTC employes last Thursday night, Philip Murray, CIO leader, proclaimed: "We in CIO stand firmly on the belief that in the ranks of labor all men must be given free and equal opportunity, and these must accrue to all irrespective of race, creed, religion, or nationality." The auditorium rocked with the applause which greeted this fundamental utterance.

Now your Action Committee proposes to implement these words. Together with the mighty hosts of labor represented in the great CIO as well as the progressive elements of AFL, we shall bring about the complete victory of the masses of the people, by securing the upgrading of Negroes in PTC. To this end we plan a VICTORY RALLY at Town Hall, Sunday afternoon, April 16. Mark that day on your calendar. It will be a red letter day in our history and in the history of our city.

TEHRAN AND PTC 3-18-44

The splitting tactics of the defeatists, poll-tax sympathisers, peace-now prompters and all their ilk are proving increasingly impotent in the fact of the onward march of the progressive masses of the people. The principles of Tehran daily find vindication in our own city as elsewhere. The world after the war will be a different place to live in. Just as Negroes are about to achieve victory over PTC, so are the masses of the people, black, white and yellow, about to come into their own throughout the world. That is the meaning of Tehran. It is the meaning of the imminent victory over PTC.

CIO Victory Means Break For Colored

Tribune-Phila., Pa.
3-18-44

Although Union officials were not prepared to make a statement early Wednesday morning, the victory of the CIO affiliated Transport Workers Union as bargaining agent for the Philadelphia Transportation Company speaks well for the future of the colored employees of the company.

With over 85% of the 10,000 eligible workers figuring in the voting, the CIO faction won out with a total of 4410 votes while the company - controlled PRT Union was second with 1815 votes. The AFL Union was third with 1657.

The office workers voted to retain the Company union. The other two unions were not involved. 3-18-44

The fight for control of the company's employees was brought to a head recently when colored men and women were denied the opportunity to pilot trolleys and act as conductors, elevated station cashiers and other jobs of like nature.

When the complaint was taken to the FEPC the PRT Employees Union flatly refused to "upset existing conditions." The plea for the upgrading of the colored workers already employed was also ignored.

With the entrance of the CIO into the picture it seems probable that these grievances will be eliminated. 3-18-44

One thing is certain. The workers themselves feel that the policy of the PRT Union was un-American and undemocratic. They voted CIO because they felt the union would deal fairly regardless of race.

It is also significant to note that the maintenance workers, the majority of whom are colored, polled over twice as many votes for the CIO as the total of the others. Among the transportation workers the majority was more than 400.

CIO to Fight for Distribution of Equality Pamphlet

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.
3-8-44

The National CIO War Relief Committee will distribute the pamphlet, "The Races of Mankind" to members of the House and Senate. Leo Perlis, national director of the Committee, announced yesterday when informed that Representative Andrew J. May, chairman of the House Military Affairs Committee, was attempting to block Army distribution of the pamphlet.

The CIO director said, "Congress would do well to read this important pamphlet to get facts of the controversy. After all, are we not fighting a war to eliminate racial theories?"

The CIO Committee began distribution of this pamphlet to members of armed forces following the USO board's decision, upholding Chester I. Barnard's insistence that the popularly-written pamphlet be banned from YMCA-sponsored USO units. 3-8-44

CIO BACKS PAMPHLET

In a letter to Mr. Barnard, the CIO replied that "it is our patriotic duty to make this important pamphlet available to the troops."

"We believe this pamphlet is one of the best weapons in the hands of our soldiers. It is certainly one of the best answers to Hitler's Aryan creed. It promotes tolerance by showing the brotherhood of mankind, the likeness and the fundamental unity of the races. It states that the cure for race prejudice lies in freedom from fear. It emphasizes one of the fundamental principles for which our men and women in the armed forces are fighting."

The pamphlet, prepared for the Public Affairs Committee by Ruth Benedict and Gene Weltfish, Columbia University anthropologists, under the supervision of a committee of the American Association of Scientific Workers, is an exposition of the basic facts about races which identifies race prejudice as "a comparatively modern disease."

In the three years of its existence, the National CIO War Relief Committee, official fund-raising agency of the CIO has accumulated a mailing list to the soldiers and sailors of more than 100,000 bona fide names. These names were submitted by CIO unions throughout the country, with members in all branches of the armed services.

Negro-White Union Demands Higher Pay

Daily World Atlanta, Ga.
4-13-44

SUMTER, S. C.—Local 273 (CIO) of the United Furniture Workers, composed of Negro and white workers, has had the Brooklyn Cooperage Company certified to the War Labor Board by the Secretary of Labor after negotiations between the Union and the Company for maintenance of membership and higher wages had reached a statement. The hearing was scheduled for Columbia before the panel of the Fourth Regional War Labor Board on April 12th Local 273 has both white and Negro officers and members. 4-13-44

major companies of the industry."

Organizing Committee of the Court of Columbia of Appeals unanimously rejected the petition of the company union for a still another injunction, covering the 12,000 workers including those of the District Court of Columbia, and after Judge Bailey of the Federal District Court "We expect to extend the benefits of the CIO organization throughout the two-year fight for bargaining rights by the CIO.

The election followed a series of court actions by the company union who succeeded in getting two injunctions restraining the National Labor Relations Board from holding an election on the ground that the CIO had also turned down a request for "trust buster" Thurman Arnold and Frank Hargrove, director of the To-tinue this organization to the other

CIO Wins Right To Act For 12,000 Tobacco Workers

1-1-44

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. — The election on two previous occa- In a statement issued by Donald and sell-outs by the A.F.L. Tobac- 2,000 workers of the R. J. Reynolds sions, Attorneys for the company Henderson, international president co Workers Union this giant com- ant, the majority of whom are Ne- union received their final set-back of the UCAPAWA-CIO. pany in the industry has been or- s, this week voted two to one on the day before the election when Conrad Bailey of the Federal Court ganized by the CIO. We shall con- yor of the Tobacco Workers of Columbia denied a petition of the vice president and director of the tinue this organization to the other

Demos View Clash Between CIO, Old Guard At Confab

Platform Of New Labor Committee May Be Galling

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.
5-24-44

WASHINGTON—(A N P) — A clash between the CIO and old guard Democrats is predicted when the two meet at the party's national convention in Chicago in July. Such things as the anti-poll tax bill universal citizen suffrage regardless of color and other racial and color issues are the platform of the CIO's political action committee which may be very embarrassing and galling to southern Demeocrats.

With $700,000 in their treasury, the CIO Political Action committee is rapidly becoming a powerful factor in the 1944 presidential and congressional campaigns, according to reports. The Dies committee and Rep. Howard Smith of Virginia, author of the anti-stricke, anti-labor politics act, have been trying to demonstract that the committee has violated the law, but Atty. Gen. Biddle still upholds the CIO in its political moves. At least 15 of Michigan's 38 delegates who will be represented on the floor of the Democratic national convention are officers of the United Automobile Workers union and more are expected to have credentials from industrial districts in other states.

It is said that Sidney Hillman and his CIO Political Action committee are on the "spot." The moment any of the enemies of his organization think they have a substantial case they will bring court action. Rep. Joe Starnes of Alabama charges the CIO with his defeat, although officers of the CIO Political Action committee deny they are responsible. The elimination of both Starnes and Martin Dies of Texas, who has recently announced his retirement from politics, from the political picture is said to fulfil a part of the CIO's program. 5-24-44

The action of the CIO in registering Negro voters in the south, and its stand in regard to Negro equality is destined to bring about a clash with old guard Democrats at the national convention, according to reports from reliable Democratic party sources.

Murray Urges Senate Group to Okay FEPC

Daily Worker N.Y., N.Y.

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, D. C., June 4.—CIO President Philip Murray appealed today to the Senate Appropriation Committee to approve funds for the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practice. 6-5-44

Murray said in a letter to committee members that congressional approval of funds for FEPC would be a contribution to "continued success of our national war effort."

A Senate Appropriations Sub-committee begins executive session hearings tomorrow on the $585,000 appropriation for FEPC asked by the President. The House approved $500,000 for FEPC by a four-vote margin.

Negro-White Slate Sweeps Sun Shipyard Union Election

Daily Worker-Newyork, N.Y. 6-22-44

CHESTER, Pa., June 21.—The entire progressive unity slate of Negro and white candidates was swept to office in yesterday's balloting of members of Sun Shipbuilding, Local 2, Industrial Union of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers, CIO. Jiminez. 6-22-44

The victory ousted from control a disruptive group headed by "Aggie" Campbell, formerly a figure in the dissolved Pew-sponsored company union. Despite his expulsion from the union as a disrupter a month ago, Campbell continued as the main spirit in the red-baiting and Negro-baiting campaign of his associates.

The victorious slate is headed by Jack Jascourt, candidate for president and principal target of the red-baiters. The two elected business agents Leader Rankin, a Negro and Lou Marquet.

Jascort drew a better than two to one vote for his opponent. Others elected with him are James Glovier, secretary treasurer; Merrett Brown (Negro) recording secretary; Artie Arthur, vice-president. Two Negroes and a woman were elected trustees. They are Walter Everett, Charles MacDonald, and Mary

"This is a victory for Negro-white unity and for the CIO," said Marquet, speaking for the victorious slate, "and a slap in the face for Campbell's anti - CIO red - baiting and Negro-baiting.

"Although Campbell was expelled he has actually been the campaign manager for the defeated candidates."

The yard now employing 34,000, about half of them Negroes, has been an arena of disruptive activities ever since the election that spelled the death of the company union. Red-baiting and race-hatred is the main weapon of the anti-CIO elements.

CIO To Send Soldiers Banned Race Pamphlet

Defender-Chicago, Ill
2-19-44

NEW YORK — Copies of the pamphlet "Races of Mankind," whose distribution to service men in USO centers was banned by Chester I. Barnard, USO president, will be mailed to all service men in the country by the National CIO War Relief committee, it was announced this week.

The CIO committee said it would ask the War and Navy departments to permit similar distribution of the controversial pamphlet to service men overseas.

The announcement was made jointly by Chairman Irving Abramson and National Director Leo Perlis of the war relief committee in reply to the recent action of the USO board upholding its president's decision in banning the distribution of the publication in USO centers.

"Since Mr. Barnard's decision was upheld, we feel it is our duty to state our reaction in emphatic terms," CIO committee officials declared. "We believe this pamphlet is one of the best weapons in the hands of our soldiers. It certainly is one of the best answers to Hitler's Aryan creed. It promotes tolerance by showing the brotherhood of mankind, the likenesses and the fundamental unity of the races. 2-19-44

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CIO Leader Warns Against Privileges to Save Jobs

Daily Worker-Chicago, Ill
3-19-44

"If Negro workers permit themselves to be tricked into demanding special privileges and seniority rights to save their jobs after the war, wild scramble our economic progress will be set back thirty years." This statement was made in an impassioned speech by Wesley Thompson before a packed house of Negro and white AFL and CIO leaders. Sunday at

the regular meeting of the Doug
lass-Washington Institute of which
Thompson is president.

Thompson also explained that at
least 40,000 Negro workers in the
Chicago area would lose their jobs
unless Negroes take immediate ac-
tion to prevent discriminatory lay-
offs. "Join a union," he said, "keep
your dues paid up, know your un-
ion constitution, the contract with
your employer, and see that every
man knows NOW what his senority
is in the plant. 3-19-44

"Equal job security for Negroes
requires that we be laid off and
called back to work according to
seniority. If we can make the prin-
ciple of equal treatment for Ne-
groes stand up after this war, we will
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"Certain people in the labor movement," Thompson warned, "people who ought to know better, are urging Negroes to demand that they be kept on the job at certain plants whether or not their seniority requires it. Such a policy hasn't the slightest chance of succeeding. It is nothing but cheap union politics and the Negro who lets himself be taken in by it is a fool. 3-19-44

"Such special treatment for Negroes would destroy the principle which we have worked so hard to have recognized in American labor unions and in American industry. That principle is equality—that a man be hired and promoted according to his ability and that he be retained on the job according to his seniority.

"Every labor leader and union member in Chicago knows we have a long way to go to get full recognition of the principle of equal treatment for Negroes in plants and shops. Many white workers and employers still believe that a Negro should be the last hired and the first fired. These Negro haters are constantly on the alert to spread the vicious propaganda that Negroes are trying to use the labor movement solely for their own benefit and that it is the duty of the white workers to stop them."

Thompson charged that the idea of asking for special privileges for Negroes "would play right into the hands of those who do not want to give Negroes even equal treatment. Let's fight our economic battles with our brains and not with our emotions and let's stop certain people from deceiving us into playing their game by appealing to our emotions."

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35k-1944

CIO

CIO Wins Wage Hike, Back Pay For 12,000 Dining Car Workers

Courier- Cliffsburgh, Pa.

2-26-44

CHICAGO—The CIO, through its railroad affiliate, the United Transport Service Employees of America, gained its greatest victory and firmly established itself in the railroad industry this week when the UTSEA-CIO completed negotiations with more than 50 railroad companies calling for a 11- wage increase and several million dollars in retroactive pay for its 12,000 dining car employees, red caps, station ushers, Pullman laundry workers and train porters.

The major aspect, aside from the wage increase, came in the form of a complete victory over the "jim crow" 15 non-operating brotherhoods who had strenuously sought to isolate the UTSEA-CIO wage demands before and during the period of governmental operation of railroads.

CIO SENTIMENT STRONG

The tide of CIO sentiment in the railroad industry is on the increase everywhere and among numerous crafts and classifications. The fear of a general revolt towards the CIO has left certain railroad brotherhoods panic stricken and more time has been spent by these leaders of jim-crow unionism seeking to destroy every semblance of CIO sentiment within their organizational borders than has been spent in improving conditions among their own restricted membership. 2-26-44

Today, the more conservative areas of this restricted membership are in turmoil over their problems and even the old promise of "white superiority" on the part of the brotherhood leaders has not been able to stem the tide towards progressive unionism in the railroad industry. High prices, inflation and low wages are completely ignorant of the difference between "inferior" and "superior" races of mankind. A classic example of this fact is that today approximately 4070 of UTSEA-CIO membership is composed of white railroad workers, who are far more interested in their common security than in the color of their skin, union spokesmen stated.

NEW BARGAINING SETUP

After studying UTSEA-CIO proposals for several weeks, the railroads agreed by creating the Eastern Carriers Conference Committee, representing Eastern railroads which held cotracts with the CIO union and the Western Carriers Conference Committee, representing Western railroads maintaining similar contracts. H. A. Enochs of the Pennsylvania Railroad served as chairman of the Eastern Carriers Conference Committee and D. P. Loomis of the Western Association of Railroads, headed the Western Carriers Conference Committee.

The UTSEA-CIO Committee for the Eastern Conference included President Willard S. Townsend, Secretary-Treasurer John L. Yancey, Vice President James O. Candy, General Chairman William H. Brown of the New York, New Haven and Hartford, General Chairman R. T. Ash of the Pennsylvania and General Chairman John Nickens of the New York Central. The UTSEA-CIO Committee in addition to Townsend and Yancey included Vice President John R. Hoskins, Vice President Henry White and General Chairman W. Winchester. Negotiators for the UTSEA-CIO are separate from the two carriers committees. The creation of this new negotiating machinery by the UTSEA-CIO are separate from the two carriers committees. The creation of this ney negotiating machinery by the UTSEA-CIO in the railroad industry firmly establishes the CIO as an important industry long dominated by the conservative AFL non-operating brotherhoods and prepares the way for a revitalizing campaign within the ranks of railroad labor.

The Bridgehead

By FRANK D. GRIFFIN

It is gratifying to know that the CIO has decided to send the pamphlet, RACES OF MANKIND, to all of its members in the armed forces. This is in keeping with the general democratic spirit of this great labor organization.

Last year the CIO gave something like 22 million dollars to the National War Fund which is the overall organization which solicits funds for the USO and 16 kindred organizations.

This huge sum together with what the A. F. of L. contributed last year, must run to something like 40 million or 50 million dollars. What I am getting at is that this is a huge amount of protest power. If the CIO and the A. F. of L. were to call on the National War Fund for a showdown with those organizations like the USO and others which discriminate against Negroes, we might get somewhere. They could demand the enunciation of a non-discriminatory policy by the groups affiliated with the National War Fund.

The American Red Cross is now going to the country for funds to carry on its great work. It would be well for organized labor when sending large checks to this organization to also demand a change in its official policy.

While some people believe that progress is being made in the Red Cross, one must say that the baby steps that the Red Cross is making are almost invisible. Each day we read in the papers of the Red Cross opening segregated centers in foreign lands. This means that they are continuing their policy of segregation near the very battle fields where cannon are belching forth victory for our cause. In other words, they are exeending it to nations of the world where it never existed. We can not be content with, nor accept, the slowness of pace with which these giant organizations are operating.

The American Red Cross' discriminatory blood bank still exists, and these "worthy" gentlemen to date have shown no inclination to change it. It ,therefore, becomes necessary for an aroused public opinion to force that change. The organized labor movement in which there are now over a million Negroes, must raise this issue.

Frederick Douglass, in a speech during the War between the States, stated that the Negro should get an eagle on his button and a rifle on his shoulder and join the fight for freedom. But, mind you, he said an EAGLE, not a "jim crow," and a spade. If today we cannot register any greater gains than Douglass registered, we are in a sorry plight. If the American church, the organized labor movement and civil rights organizations started raising the dickens about the Nazified thinking of racial segregation on the part of our "mercy" agencies, we would get somewhere fast.

We who gloried in the achievement of the Negroes who flew to New York a few days ago as navigators—and in mixed crews at that—but few of us like to think that as soon as their training is fully completed, these boys will be turned over to SEGREGATED UNITS. It just shows the cock-eyed white-superiority thinking of our War Department. If mixed crews of navigators, pilots, etc., can fly from the sovereign state of segregated Texas together, why in heaven's name can't they fly on to victory together?

The people must become vocal. Whether it is the USO, the Red Cross, or the Armed Forces we still have a job to do. It will be terrible indeed if on the day of victory, the troops of our nation line up in Berlin with Negroes on one side and White soldiers on the other. It will be hypocrisy at its worst if allover freed Europe our American Red Cross continues to establish Red Cross centers with the Hitler technique of jim crow and segregation as they already have done in sections which are now under our occupation. Therefore, I believe it is to the benefit of a complete United Nations Victory and a component part of unconditional surrender for us to force the surrender of the racial bigots in our War and Navy Departments and in our "Mercy" organizations.

I say give, but with every dollar that is given, let there go a protest against discrimination. Here I think is a case for the CIO's Anti-Discrimination Committee that was set up by Philip Murray. That Committee should make an immediate investigation of these American organizations and make recommendations to the CIO for the correction of these evils. The committee will be doing not only the CIO a service, but also the American people. It would also show to the millions of dark-skinned peoples who are in this war that America is trying to bring about full democracy in this country and thereby prove that she is worthy of their respect and confidence.

Philadelphia's Strike

8-8-44

The Philadelphia transit strike is over, but it has left a bitter taste in the mouth of the American people. Six thousand men were out for the larger part of a week, thereby seriously interfering with the war effort. They were out avowedly because eight Negroes were being trained for service as motormen. That, in the light of all that has been disclosed, hardly seems the whole story. Philadelphia has been conspicuous for reasonably good relations between the races. Something deeper must underlie this ugly explosion in our third largest city.

Age-Herald-Birmingham, Ala.

A more fundamental motivation now seems discernible—at least in part. This was a strike against the government, apparently because dissatisfied members of an independent or "company" union which had lost out in a collective bargaining election were intent on giving trouble. The successful union was the CIO, whose officials tried to prevent the strike and then to persuade the strikers to go back to work. It is being observed that the company did not exert itself particularly, or as much as was to be expected in the circumstances, to bring the walkout to an end.

In other words, government labor agencies, including the WLB, were being attacked by a group of workers which was still bucking against the expressed choice of a majority of the employes. This attack seems to have been made in a climate conductive to its prolongation. And it was broken only after the president was appealed to by the WLB, only after the Army came into the picture with an ultimatum and only after the Department of Justice gave evidence of its intention to deal with strike leaders under the Smith-Connally act. One wonders why quicker action on the part of the national authorities could not have made itself felt.

* * * 8-8-44

The CIO as an organization can not be held responsible, but the fact remains that its rank-and-file members figured in the affair. These men obeyed the orders of irresponsible persons associated with a competing labor union. How was this possible, what was it that led thousands of men to disregard their own leadership in this fashion, what was it that made them do something which amounted so glaringly to playing Hitler's game? They did not do it because they had been reached by enemy agents. That much seems to have been established. But this strike was nevertheless naked sabotage.

Can it be that these workers were merely manifesting a restlessness affecting the whole body of organized labor? In the Middle West, truck drivers belonging to the AFL are on a rampage. Or have we here a revelation of a wider and profounder uncertainty due to the prospect of an Allied victory, already resulting in the laying off of many workers? Is this part of a confusion anticipatory of the troubles which conversion will bring? Is this the shadow of the looming transition from war to peace?

That must have contributed to the main result. But it was only one factor in the equation. Also to be noted is the hesitancy of the government to hit hard and quick. Also to be noted is the refusal of organized labor to establish a record for disciplining members who get out of hand. Finally, to be noted is the failure of the transit company to press its influence for a prompt termination of the strike. This is a very complicated situation which has just been dissolved in Philadelphia.

* * * 8-8-44

It is to be hoped that the government will go through with its prosecution of the strike leaders. That will serve as a deterrent to other troublemakers. It is to be hoped that the WLB had enough of temporizing, and action. This has been an intolerable affair with its shabby use of race prejudice, its atmosphere of conspiracy, its disclosure of shilly-shallying in Washington, of the incapacity of labor organizations to control their members. It is to be hoped that the WLB will now make it unreadiness for clear that it is always ready to go into postwar future.

PARTY HEAD—Ben Davis, Jr., the Communist member of the New York City Council, was co-chairman when this party held its convention May 23 at Madison Square Garden. Davis is the first Negro Communist to hold public office.

Tells Congressman of PAC Activities

Dock J. Williams (left), former leader of local 25, United Packing House Workers (CIO), telling Rep. Ralph E. Church (right) how political action group sought to force local to contribute $6,000 for political activities. Dunbar Lewis (center) of Glencoe, a friend of congressman, listens to conference in Church's Evanston home.

[TRIBUNE Photo.]

$700,000 Total Challenged.

The Illinois congressman, here for a visit with his son before the latter's entry into military service, returned to Washington, armed with information that will provide a barrage of questions he intends to fire at Hillman when the PAC leader appears before the house committee.

Williams scoffed at Hillman's report that $700,000 was raised for the PAC and set the figure nearer the 3 million dollars which CIO officials early in the campaign admitted was the PAC goal. Williams insisted the PAC had raised nearly 1 million dollars among the 40 internationals in the Chicago district alone.

Williams said information he had received as late as two weeks ago was that the ward and precinct organization of the PAC was to be complete by Sept. 7. On that date, he said, the organization will start a nation-wide drive to elect Roosevelt for a fourth term, to purge all members of congress who had incurred the displeasure of the Communists, and to elect all officials indorsed by the CIO.

Unions to Pay Salaries.

PAC workers may be dropped insofar as the PAC pay rolls are concerned, Williams said, but arrangements already have been made to carry every ward committeeman as an organizer on the pay rolls of the various internationals and to compensate precinct captains and other workers thru the treasuries of the various CIO internationals. Each worker's job will be political, not for the benefit of the union, Williams charged.

As president of local 25, with a membership of 6,000, Williams was named a member of the original district PAC committee. His was the only voice raised against the PAC program when the committee met and voted to approve it, Williams said. The original goal for the 180,000 members of the Packinghouse workers international, he said, was $750,000. The $1 paid by each member was to be only the beginning, Williams pointed out.

Revolt May Cause Delay.

"After speakers told what we must do to save the country and save labor," Williams said, "the committee approved the general idea of a PAC program. Then we were told what we had agreed to do. Goals must be set for every international and every local. The PAC wanted $6,000 from my local and said we had to send in $1,000 right away so organizers could be paid and the program could get started.

"When I told my executive board about this, it refused to pay the PAC assessment. Then when I informed the international officers of this action, they fired me and the 13 members of the executive board of our local. My local still has not paid the assessment. I know there are other locals that are objecting. That may delay the Sept. 7 start of the PAC campaign, but it won't delay it long."

$1,000 Paid by One Local.

When told that Hillman testified before the senate committee last June that the United Packinghouse Workers had contributed only $1,000 to the PAC, Williams said that one local alone—local 347 at the Armour plant—had paid in more than that amount.

"Why, the local spent $1,700 for a farewell party for Herbert March last spring when he went off to help the PAC committee," Williams said. March, one of the more prominent Chicago Communists, had been leader of the Armour local. Mayor Kelly addressed the farewell party in the Skyline club.

CHURCH TO QUIZ HILLMAN TODAY ON PAC TRICKERY

Told of $1,000,000 Fund Raised in Midwest.

Sidney Hillman's political action committee, far from disbanding as announced, will "go underground" about Sept. 7 and will spend millions of dollars to perpetuate the New Deal and elect Communist indorsed public officials, Dock J. Williams, former president of local 25, United Packinghouse Workers [CIO], charged yesterday.

Williams, who was deposed as president of local 25 by international officers when he refused to support the PAC program, conferred Saturday with Rep. Ralph E. Church [R., 10th], a member of the house committee on investigation of campaign expenditures, before which Hillman is scheduled to appear in Washington today. Williams said he learned Church was at his home in Evanston and thought there were some things about the PAC he should know.

Gov't Union Acts For Racial Unity

The CIO United Federal Workers has established a Committee on Racial Unity which will direct anti-discrimination activities of the union's branches in Greater New York and northern New Jersey, it was announced yesterday.

John Harmon, an OPA attache who was named chairman, said the committee would fight "to keep racial and religious discrimination out of every phase of federal employment, including the promoting or dismissing of present employees as well as the hiring of new ones."

The committee's campaign will be based on enforcement of the President's Executive Order 8802, barring discrimination.

The committee will hold a rally at the Abyssinian Baptist Church, 132 W. 138 St., Sept. 13, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be open to the public.

Besides Harmon, officers of the committee are Herman Winslow of the Brooklyn Navy Yard and T. Lombardi of the Naval Clothing Depot, vice-chairman; Harriet Rosenfeld of the Social Security Board, recording secretary, and Trudy Chaban of the Veterans Administration, corresponding secretary.

FIELD REPRESENTATIVE—Miss Anne Mason, newly-appointed field representative of the CIO Political Action Committee women's division, receives initial instructions from Mrs. Verda Barnes, women's division chairman. Miss Mason, whose home is in Cincinnati, Ohio, has had wide experience in newspaper work, education, and local political action.

CIO to Broaden War on Racism

CHICAGO — A recommendation that each State CIO Council appoint a liaison officer to coordinate its work with that of the National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination in an over-all program for fighting discrimination throughout the nation was approved by the committee here last week.

The suggested 7-point program makes State councils responsible for:

Formation of anti-discrimination committees in industrial councils and local unions; of program and action conferences, distribution of anti-bias literature; advising county, city and local unions, development of programs for better race relations.

The Dawson-Scanlon Bill, calling for a permanent fair employment practice committee, was endorsed during the meeting. The Wicks Bill, until recently pending in the New York Legislature, killed by Governor Dewey in a political maneuver, was also discussed.

Following a study of the measure, the committee instructed George L. P. Weaver, its director, to make an analysis of the Wicks Bill and send copies to State Councils urging inclusion of a similar measure in all State CIO legislative programs.

Present at the meeting were: James B. Carey, chairman; Willard S. Townsend, secretary; Morris Muster, UFW; Walter Hardin, UAW; Harry Reade, CIO News (Mich.); Boyd Wilson, USA, and Mr. Weaver, Ferdinand Smith was absent because of "urgent" business in NYC.

8 Get Distinction Awards

Voted distinction awards for outstanding work in the fight against discrimination were: Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, R. J. Thomas, United Auto Workers; Irving Abramson, CIO War Relief Committee; Jack Kroll, Ohio CIO Council; Lester B. Granger, National Urban League; Miss Ruth Benedict, author of "Races of Mankind"; and Bishop Hass, former FEPC head.

to build a post-war era of opportunity and security."

Hillman also announced that Dr. Charles S. Johnson, director of the Social Sciences at Fisk university in Nashville, Tenn., has joined National Citizens' PAC executive committee by Dr. Robert C. Weaver, Paul Robeson, Jr., executive secretary of the Fraternal Council of Negro Churches, Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Judge William Hastie, Roscoe Dunjee, Carter Wesley, P. B. Young, Canada Lee and Julian Steele.

PAC Gets 4 New Members

NEW YORK — Four additions to the national citizens' PAC committee were announced by Bishop R. R. Wright, Jr., vice-chairman of the group. Bishop Wright said that the addition of Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, Judge William Hastie, Roscoe Dunjee, Carter Wesley, P. B. Young, Canada Lee and Julian Steele.

BISHOP WRIGHT ON PAC STAFF

FERDINAND SMITH QUITS NMU POST

Pittsburgh Courier-Pa.

Chicago Defender 11-25-44

NEW YORK—The National Maritime Union, at a meeting in New York headquarters, 346 West 17th street, accepted the resignation of Ferdinand C. Smith as national secretary. An official of the union since its inception, Smith remains a member in good standing. Smith was delegated by the union to tour key centers, accompanied by Capt. Hugh Mulzac and Miss Thyra Edwards to inform the Negro of the issues facing the country in the recent elections. On the eve of a testimonial dinner tendered Smith at the Commodore hotel, the World Telegram revealed the fact that he was not a citizen of the United States after having been a resident of the country for 25 years. This invalidated his right to hold office, according to Article 7, Section 1, of the union's constitution covering qualifications of officers:

"Any member who shall be in good standing continuously for one year, and who is a citizen of the United States or who has legally filed his intentions to become a citizen of the United States, shall be eligible to hold office in the National Maritime union."

NAMED COMMITTEE TO PROBE CHARGES

Smith immediately requested Curran to name a committee to investigate the question raised by this attack and charges that he had illegally entered the country. Last week Curran called a meeting of the national council and reported that the charges of illegal entry were false; Smith allegedly entered the United States legally in 1918. In 1920 he filed his intention to become a citizen. In the years immediately following, Smith was continuously at sea, and, like many seamen, neglected to complete the steps to secure citizenship papers. Curran emphasized in his report that Smith's violation of the union's constitution was not intentional.

11-25-44

Smith's resignation was made public by Curran on behalf of the council which is composed of national officers and agents in key ports throughout the country.

He stated in his resignation:

"As a responsible leader of the union, it is my duty to do all in my power to see to it that the provisions of the constitution are held inviolate. The issue is not one of technicalities pro or con. The only issue before me is the welfare of the National Maritime Union, with which I have been associated since its inception.

"With this is mind, my course of action is clear, I must take that step which will make it impossible for this issue to be utilized by forces hostile to the union to split or weaken the union in any way."

The council individually and as an official body, expressed regret at his resignation and paid tribute to the superb contribution Smith has made to the American labor movement. The wish was expressed that he file the necessary papers and establish eligibility to hold office.

Packard Local Elects Negro Vice-President

Daily Worker N.Y.; N.Y.

11-29-44

By HARRY FAINRAU

DETROIT, Nov. 28.—The CIO United Auto Workers local at the Packard Motor Co., which only a few weeks ago was torn by problems of discrimination, has elected Conley J. Peoples, a Negro, vice-president.

His unanimous election followed by less than a fortnight a strike of Packard Negro employes in protest against discrimination. Nine Negroes, upgraded to become rod polishers, had been dismissed after a day and a half trial. The trial, proposed by Melvin Bishop, an associate of Walter Reuther, played into the hands of anti-Negro elements who denied the upgraded Negroes cooperation customarily given white workers in the same circumstances.

In response to appeals from R. J. Thomas, international president, the strike was ended and the grievances submitted for arbitration.

Peoples was elected at a union meeting at which Norman Matthews, president, resigned and Louis De Berne, vice-president, was elevated to succeed Matthews.

FOR NO-STRIKE VOW

Presenting his resignation, Matthews received an ovation from the membership when he admitted past mistakes, especially with regard to discrimination, and appealed to members and leaders to end factionalism and unite all forces behind the policies of the UAW and the CIO. Matthews urged members to uphold the no-strike pledge in the unionwide referendum soon to be conducted.

11-29-44

In harmony with the spirit of the meeting, Harold Hartley, union member, introduced a resolution calling for strict adherence to the UAW constitutional provisions with respect to discrimination and seniority procedure. The resolution, adopted unanimously, branded discrimination a weapon of "fascist Germany" and "reactionary forces" and demanded firm enforcement of seniority rights "regardless of race or sex."

Any adjustments necessary to protect gains made during the war in the employment of women and minority groups can be made at regular local meetings, the resolution adds.

11-29-44

The declaration also instructs the executive board to bring to trial "enemies of our union who constantly organize groups to violate the UAW-CIO constitution and our contractual provisions with respect to discrimination on account of race, sex or religion."

DeBerne, taking office, said he would do everything in his power to eliminate factionalism. He will not run for the presidency when elections take place in February or March, he said. Peoples pledged that he would carry out CIO policies to the best of his ability.

Maryland Dist. CIO Acts To Protect Negroes' Jobs

WASHINGTON.—Concerned lest strict application of seniority rules cause wholesale layoffs among Negroes during cutbacks, the Maryland and Washington, D. C., CIO has instructed it incoming executive board to make a study of the whole matter.

Action was taken at the state CIO convention last weekend at the Hotel Willard here. Nearly 2,000 delegates, representing over 454,400 CIO members attended.

There was lively discussion on the question with delegates speaking for and against a resolution which declared that "old seniority formulae, which were so useful to labor, do not fit the new situation in industry." Adoption, however, was voted unanimously.

CIO activity in helping reelect President Roosevelt and candidates supporting him came in for plenty of credit from guest speakers. Preston Lane, chairman of the Maryland Democratic Campaign Committee, Adam Clayton Powell, Congressman-elect, and Maryland Gov. Hubert O'Connor were among those who praised the CIO contribution.

DENOUNCE CHURCHILL

A high point in the convention was unanimous adoption, amid wild acclaim, of a resolution which called upon Prime Minister Churchill "in the interest of speedy victory and a stable peace" to renounce his present course of action in Italy, Belgium and Greece. The same resolution commended President Roosevelt for his appointment of Secretary of State Stettinius and Stettinius' forthright stand on democracy for liberated countries.

Labor's non-strike pledge was reaffirmed, international labor unity was endorsed along with a call for establishment of a new international labor organization and special resolutions were adopted hailing the leadership of President Roosevelt and CIO President Philip Murray.

There were contests in the election of officers, with a group led by Michael McHale of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers entering a slate in opposition to a ticket backed by De-Dominicis.

Five Negroes are among the new vice-presidents. They are: James C. Nickens of United Steelworkers; Ben Cole of United Sugar Workers; Oliver Palmer and Joseph E. White of United Federal Workers and Joe Henderson of the Washington Industrial Union Council.

Smith Makes Statement

Smith stated in his resignation:

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Joseph Curran, N... was sending Smith on... to be a highly succ... wide tour to inform... people of the issues... country in the recent...

A statement unanimously approved by the National Council hailed Smith as an outstanding leader and noted that reactionary newspapers had launched an attack on Smith's status as a citizen.

No Longer Failure to Become Citizen Makes It Necessary Maritime Officer

Call-Kansas City, Mo.

11-24-44

NEW YORK. — The National Maritime Union at a meeting in New York headquarters, 346 West St., has accepted the resig... of Ferdinand C. Smith as ... national secretary. An official of the union since its inception, Smith remains a member in good standing. Smith was delegated by the union to tour key centers, accompanied by Capt. Hugh Mulzac and Miss Thyra Edwards to inform the Negro of the issues facing the country in the recent elections. On the eve of a testimonial dinner tendered Smith at the Commodore hotel, the World Telegram revealed the fact that he was not a citizen of the United States after having been a resident of the country for 25 years. This invalidated his right to hold office, according to Article 7, Section 1, of the union's constitution covering qualifications of officers:

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"With this is mind, my course of action is clear, I must take that step which will make it impossible for this issue to be utilized by forces hostile to the union to split or weaken the union in any way."

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The council statement emphasized that "the constitution of the National Maritime Union must be binding on all its members, great or small, officials or non-officials." It asserted that the NMU "never had and never would accept leadership in the conduct of its internal affairs from any sources outside the union," but would be governed, "in this instance, as in all others, by the provisions of the constitution." 11-24-44

A committee appointed by Curran at Smith's request had investigated charges that Smith was not a citizen, had not filed his intention to become a citizen, and was, therefore, ineligible to hold office. Immediately upon receiving the committee's report, Curran called a meeting of the council members. 11-24-44

Violates Union's Constitution

Curran informed the council that Smith was in violation of the union's constitution. He pointed out that Smith had entered the United States illegally in 1918, and had filed his intention to become a citizen in 1920. However, Curran said, Smith was frequently at sea and, like many other seamen, neglected to complete the necessary legal steps to seurce his citizenship papers. His violation, Curran emphasized was not intentional.

The statement of the council concluded with these words:

"We, the members of the National Council know and love Ferdinand Smith.

"We know the great contribution he has made to his union, his people and his country.

"It is therefore with the deepest regret that we accept his resignation.

"The fight for the progressive policies and programs which Ferdinand Smith and the National Maritime Union have carried on in the past is over now. We will continue that struggle—with the aid and counsel of Ferdinand Smith." 11-24-44

By unanimous vote, the council elected as pro-tem secretary, Neal Henley, recently elected a national director of the union.

UTSEA Hears New CIO Pledge

Balt. Md. AFRO-AMERICAN 3-27-44

CHICAGO.—(ANP)—CIO leaders reaffirmed their intention to wage ceaseless war against racial discrimination last week when the fourth biennial convention of the United Transport Service Employes of America met here.

Philip Murray, president of CIO's 6,500,000 members, speaking at the Parkway Center, endorsed President Roosevelt for a fourth term and pledged to CIO to fight for unconditional equality of the colored people.

"If colored people win their complete economic emancipation, it will be through the affilation with a labor organization whose tasks are devoted primarily to the elimination of all forms of discrimination," he added.

Chi Mayor Backs CIO

Mayor Edward J. Kelly emphatically approved the CIO's endorsement of President Roosevelt and praised the union's stand on the race issue at a mass meeting at DuSable High School, May 17.

James B. Carey, chairman of the CIO's Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, hit Sewell Avery, Montgomery Ward's anti-labor and alleged anti-colored president.

Admitting discrimination in his union, R. J. Thomas, president of the CIO United Automobile Workers, the largest single union in the world, with 150,000 colored workers enrolled, told the audience that he had little faith in education as a solution to the problem.

Randolph Hit

He also condemned A. Philip Randolph for his "yearly pilgrimages to the AFL convention to pleas and beg for race equality."

Other leaders who were on hand to endorse the CIO program were Van A. Bittner, assistant to Philip Murray, Bishop Shield, John Yancey, secretary-treasurer of the UTSEA, and Willard Townsend, president of UTSEA.

Local Elects New Officers at Packard

Free Press Detroit Mich. 11-24-44

Packard Local 190, UAW (CIO), at a meeting of 800 members Sunday in Cass Technical High School, filled two offices made vacant by the elevation last September of its former president, Norman Matthews, to the post of regional director. 11-24-44

Peoples

Louis DeBerne, former vice president, was moved up to the presidency. Conley J. Peoples was unanimously elected to the vacated vice presidency.

Union spokesmen regarded the election of Peoples as a sound move to create a basis for better racial understanding in the local.

The local was plagued with racial disturbances several times, the latest 10 days ago.

Ferdinand Smith Loses Two Other Union Posts

The Call Kansas City, Mo. 12-8-44

Ousted From Executive Board

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Ferdinand Smith, dropped as secretary of the National Maritime union, has also been removed from the executive board of the Congress of Industrial Organizations as well as from the National CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination.

This action, taken at the recent CIO convention in Chicago, was taken on motion of Joe Curran, NMU president, on the floor of the convention, but thus far has gone almost unnoticed.

Smith, touted left-winger, was relieved of his duties with the NMU as a result of disclosures by a New York publication during the heat of the presidential campaign that, although in the United States some 25 years, he had not become a citizen. The union's constitution requires that officeholders be American citizens.

M. Hedley Stone, a white union member, has replaced Smith on both the board and the committee. This leaves Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employes of America, the only Negro member on the board. He is now representing the CIO in Cuba.

Smith Out of 2 Other Union Posts

AFRO-AMERICAN 12-9-44 Balt. Md.

WASHINGTON. — (ANP) — Ferdinand Smith, dropped as secretary of the National Maritime Union because he is not an American citizen, has also been removed from the CIO executive board and from the National CIO Committee to Abolish Discrimination.

This action was taken at the recent CIO convention in Chicago on motion of Joe Curran, NMU president. The union's constitution requires that officeholders be American citizens.

Replaced by White Member

M. Hedley Stone, a white union member, has replaced Smith on both the board and the committee. This leaves Willard Townsend, president of the United Transport Service Employees of America, the only colored member on the board. He is now representing the CIO in Cuba.

Furniture Union Backs Jimcrow

CLEVELAND, Dec. 14.—CIO union officials and Urban League leaders together delivered a wallop to "Jimcrow" at the American Box Co. here last week when the furniture workers union won an agreement with the management to move against discrimination in the shop.

The union representatives and George Washington of the Urban League demanded adequate rest room and luncheon facilities for all employees, regardless of race, creed or color. 12-13-44

The demand was won after long argument last week when the company agreed to improve facilities. At the same time, a Negro girl who had been fired was reinstated with back pay.

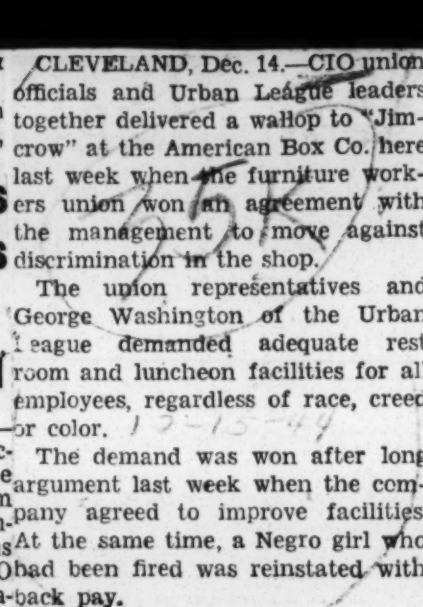
2 Colored Unionists Elected to CIO Board

Afro-American Balt. Md. 12-14-44

BIRMINGHAM, Ala. — For the first time, two colored men were elected vice-presidents-at-large on the State CIO executive board at the Alabama Industrial Council convention last week.

They are Frank Allen, international representative of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers; and Robert McGruder, United Steel Workers' organizer.

People's Voice 12-2-44



THOMAS RICHARDSON

were asked, and all forms of sales taxes were condemned.

Among the many Negro leaders present were: Richard Carter of the Marine and Shipyard Workers Union; Boyd L. Wilson, United Steel Workers, Detroit; John L. Yancey, Chicago, United Transport Service; Lyndon Henry, NYC, Fur and Leather Workers; and George Weaver, UTSEA, Washington.

CIO Convention Raps Racial Discrimination

People's Voice N.Y. 12-2-44

CHICAGO—Thanksgiving day here saw delegates to the CIO convention pass unanimously a resolution condemning racial discrimination and describing the union's anti-jimcro policy the "corner-stone of the CIO." The resolution stressed that "gains that have been achieved must not be lost in the post-war period," and "fundamental document of democracy that "anti-union employers" must not be permitted to take "any steps which are designed to return to previous conditions of discrimination and thereby reduce the gains that all workers have won."

Before the delegates voted on the resolution, Thomas Richardson, a Negro delegate and vice-president of the United Federal Workers, hailed the resolution as a

would be combatted were the individual unions be varying conditions prev different industries. It w nitely resolved, howeve something would be done. On this sonsend, presi- sport Service nd James B. retary, spoke, that

"DROP JIMCRO"—MURRAY 12-2-44

In his opening address to the convention delegates, President Phillip Murray called for the abolition of race discrimination saying that "the successful outcome of this present war must eliminate for all time the issue of discrimination because of race, creed or color. Within our own borders the form of discrimination against Negroes must be combatted as a Specific proposals as to how this problem assumes the and religious bigotry. National un-

PROPOSAL REJECTED 12-2-44

Later on in the session, a proposal to modify seniority rights so that a "proportional lay-off" of Negro workers during employment cutbacks would be insured was rejected. The delegates recognized that the old policy of "last hired, first fired" must be defeated. discrimination against

35k-1944

THE HORIZON

CIO Program Takes Care of the Negro Whether He Is Mentioned or Not

By P. L. PRATTIS

Pgh. Courier — Pa
12-2-44

ORGANIZED labor's newly-won prestige, based somewhat on the attributed achievements of the CIO's Political Action committee, challenges the serious attention of every thoughtful Negro who is concerned about the status and welfare of Negroes in this country in the next four or five years. There is no doubt that labor thinks it has won a great victory and that many others think so, too. It is just as true that labor, particularly the CIO, feels that its fight has just begun. Most CIO leaders give one the impression that they feel as though they have just got into a good position to start slugging. They are eager for the fray. They are prepared now to battle it out along the entire line that covers, in understandable, practical terms, points or issues concerned with the economic and social advancement of the worker or the common man.

Mr. Prattis

The breadth of the program of the CIO as described in resolutions adopted at the convention in Chicago last week commands respect. It is a program in which labor leadership says to Government, "We think we have some ideas about how this country should be run for the greater benefit of all. Here are some of our ideas. We have more. We think not only of working hours, wages and working conditions, but also of taxes and how to raise them, of extended educational facilities for all, of health and social security measures. We think in terms of everything that Government can do to improve the lot of the mass of citizens. We want to come in and work with Government. We demand that we be heard."

SENIORITY FOR VETS

THE CIO has earned for itself a distinguished name in its advocacy of equal consideration for all minority groups, but its program is so far-reaching that the interests of minorities are guarded whether the minorities are mentioned or not.

Two of the strongest resolutions passed concerned anti-Semitism and race discrimination, but they scarcely meant more to Negroes and other minorities than some of the resolutions in which discrimination was not mentioned.

For example, the convention recommended that CIO unions provide in their collective bargaining agreements that veterans who are employed for the first time in their plants be accorded cumulative seniority rights for the time spent in service since September 1, 1940. That, of course, means Negro veterans as well as white veterans.

seniority gift to them.

In the same way the basic annual wage, passionately advocated by Bishop Sheil, endorsed by Vice-President Wallace and the convention, must, if it becomes a reality, protect the Negro worker in the same sense that it protects the whites.

In its resolution on maternal and child health, the convention declared "the right of all mothers and children, whatever their race, residence, or family income, to all diagnostic and curative medical services they need for good health."

FOR ALL AMERICANS

ANOTHER resolution endorsed a proposal to provide lunches for school children "without discrimination as to race or religion."

Congress was called upon to enact legislation which has been pending for a long time "to provide Federal aid to States for expanding and developing full educational facilities so ALL AMERICANS shall be able to enjoy the full benefits of education."

The resolution on housing was just as inclusive.

All in all, it would appear that the CIO proposes to help the workers, as citizens, to help themselves. Not simply white workers, black workers or CIO workers, but all workers, United Mine workers and AFL workers. Many of the CIO delegates boasted that the rank and file of workers had come to recognize their common interests.

Chicago Defender

Race Issue Spotlighted At CIO, AFL Parleys

Chicago, Ill.
12-2-44

By RICHARD DURHAM

The Jim Crow-fighting CIO wants more Negro members to join the fight for race equality.

The Congress of Industrial Organizations, at a new peak in strength, wound up its fourth annual convention here in the Stevens hotel with hard-hitting resolutions against race dsicrimination and with an open invitation for Negroes to join their ranks.

In a candid speech supporting the CIO's anti-discrimination resolution, President Phillip Murray stated:

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"I think that this . . . provides an opportunity to invite, through the medium of this convention, all Negro workers eligible for membership in trade unions to promptly seek affiliation with CIO organizations.

Ask Non-Bias Clauses

"I do really believe that the eventual economic emancipation and political emancipation of the colored people lies in their willingness to associate themselves with organizations such as are affiliated with the CIO," he said.

The anti-discrimination resolution, unanimously passed by the convention delegates pledged the CIO to a ceaseless fight against race inequities and recommended that all affiliated unions include non-discriminatory clauses in their contracts.

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"Fortunately for America and fortunately for all of its people, we do have in this organization of ours the type of an economic labor movement peculiarly adaptable to the needs of colored workers," Murray said, and added:

"God help the Negro in America, and God help the minority groups of America were it not for the splendid work that is being done by this great institution of yours and mine."

Haven for Negro

"We don't confine ourselves to the mere adoption of resolutions in meetings of this kind; we make those resolutions effective and workable. . . . This organization is the home of the persecuted. This organization is a haven of rest and refuge for the Negro. This organization offers to the Negro things that have been guaranteed him, but not altogether lived up to, by the Constitution of the United States of America. . . .

"I regard this work, this particular work of protecting and advancing the cause of the Negro, as a holy and a noble work, the kind of a work that all right thinking citizens, regardless of their status in life or their affiliation with other groups, should dedicate themselves to," he concluded.

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Retelling the Philadelphia strike story, Douglas McMahon of the Transport Workers Union rose to support the resolution stating:

"We organized the Philadelphia Transportation Workers, 10,000 of them last summer. Shortly after we organized the Philadelphia Transportation company which is under control of the Pew-Bundy political machine of the State of Pennsylvania, it caused an insurrection. It was not a strike. . . .

Fights "Insurrection"

"The CIO to its credit and my own organization fought the insurrection tooth and nail. We just didn't preach equality of Negro and white. We went out and practiced it. We fought for it," he stated.

MacMahon said that the "fascist minded men," opposing Negro equality had not "given up the ghost."

"I say Negro workers and the great international unions of the CIO must see to it in the post-war period that these fascist-minded reactionary employers don't get away with this thing, that Negroes will be kept in industry, and our unions will fight to keep the Negroes where they belong—on jobs. That is what they want. That is what they are looking for, and we dare not give the reactionary forces the opportunity to throw Negroes out of work because we have an ally here, 15,000,000 Americans in this country. They are in back of CIO.

"I pledge you, as far as my union is concerned, the Negroes in industry today, shall remain in industry in the post-war period."

Seek CIO As Ally

The anti-discrimination resolution also drew strong supporting speeches from Willard Townsend president of the United Transport Service Workers, Thomas Richardson of the United Federal Workers, W. Richard Carter of Marine and Shipbuilding Workers and Secretary-Treasurer James B. Carey.

Richardson, making his first appearance at a CIO national convention, warmly commended the organization for its fight against race bias and said: "Thirteen million pairs of eyes are focused on this convention. They are focused on this convention because thirteen million Negro people know that in the CIO we have a friend, an ally."

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Carter pointed to the gains made in the CIO by Negro workers and added, "We have in shipbuilding some 400,000 workers. We have approximately 80,000 Negroes, and I can say here that we have Negroes in every office from the lowest to the general executive board in our union."

Speaking in behalf of the Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination, Carey said, "Thanks to the whole CIO for keeping faith with the Negro people and the Negroes of America. You understand that the CIO will continue, as before their able champion to see that they have equal opportunities with all other citizens in this great country."

The text of the anti-discrimination resolution stated:

"WHEREAS, The firm and unswerving policy of the CIO against discrimination toward Negro and other minorities has been a cornerstone of the CIO, as expressed in our constitution and in subsequent declarations and actions.

"This policy has been of material aid to the Negro people and to people of other minorities and has been the basis of many of the material gains made by such peoples. It has further been of great aid in advancing our national war effort and the national unity that we have achieved in prosecuting the war.

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"The advances made by the Negro workers throughout the Fair Employment Practices Committee, and the enlistment of many scores of thousands of minority people in war production are also basically due to the anti-discrimination policy of the CIO, which has done most to bring these questions forward.

"Our policy has in addition helped in the closer integration of Negro soldiers, sailors and other service personnel in the armed forces, as shown in the various steps taken toward admitting them as active combatants in the Army and Navy and in the breaking down of restrictions in canteens, post exchanges and the like; now, therefore, be it

"RESOLVED, that (1) the CIO again reaffirms its unwavering opposition to discrimination against the Negro people or the people of any other minority.

"(2) The gains that have been achieved must not be lost in the postwar. The CIO urges all affiliated unions to renewed vigilance against any form of racial discrimination, and to prevent anti-union employers from taking any steps which are designed to return to previous conditions of discrimination and thereby reduce the gains of its enemies. We call upon Congress to enact legislation that will make the Fair Employment Practices Committee a permanent institution and confer upon the agency provision that no persons seeking employment shall be discriminated against because of race, creed, color or place of origin.

"(3) The CIO commends the President's Committee on Fair Employment Practices for its splendid achievements in the American people that full political and economic equality must be accorded to all Americans. Jim Crowism, the abominable poll tax, and any other form of discrimination against Negroes must be excised from the American body politic. The CIO will strike the most telling blows against a potent source of unrest and rebellion in the American nation: discrimination against Negroes. By admitting Negroes into its membership on a basis of complete understanding and determination on the part of all CIO unions to eradicate these vicious practices from the labor movement, the CIO has given the strongest weapon in its power to the fight for real and effective national unity among all decent-minded Americans."

Earlier Bishop Bernard J. Sheil of the Catholic church in the opening invocation warned the delegates:

"Labor unions have a unique opportunity and a unique obligation in the peace that is to come. The union can strike the most telling blows against a potent source of unrest and rebellion in the American nation: discrimination against Negroes. By admitting Negroes into its membership on a

basis of equality, the unions can destroy economic injustice and beat down barriers of ill-will and stupid opposition.

"American democracy will never come into full flower until discrimination against Negroes and Jews and all minority groups is erased from our national and personal lives, for of such groups is made the greatness of America.

"We have asked the Negro and Jew to fight and die for democracy; it would be the basest cynicism to refuse to share with them that democracy," said the Chicago Catholic leader.

WHITE MAN'S VIEWS

CIO'S Program Is Blueprint of Most Powerful Religious Movement

By TED LE BERTHON

Courier, Pittsburgh, Pa 6-24-44

(The views expressed in this column are those of the writer and do not necessarily express the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors.)

ALL too often many of the friends and even members of the CIO fail to grasp its stupendous significance. Perhaps we are too close to it. The brawling partisanships of our time, like the deafening clamor of a giant aircraft plant, make careful, mellow thinking difficult. Friendly and inimical propagandists and the CIO's own small but noisy left wing, too often bellow out rhythmic rhetoric calculated to inflame our nerves, prejudices, and capacities for hot partisanship as members of a class, race, or political faction. Each creates bogus ideological melodramas, with all the heroes on one side and all the scoundrels on the other. Each so dazzles us with opposed facts and figures proving that the CIO is or is not a Communist or "fellow traveller" organism that we fail to discern the simple truth, that it is anti-Marxist in structure, that it is decentralist, and in its labor - management boards, conciliatory, class-effacing and brotherly.

Mr. Le Berthon

CIO IS RELIGIOUS

I submit that the CIO constitution, by-laws, industrial council structure and interracial brotherhood program are the blueprints of the most powerful religious movement of our times. Not ecclesiastical, mind you, but elementally religious. The CIO movement is an expression of the strongest religious ferment of the past several centuries. CIO President Philip Murray's conception of the meaning and purpose of the terrible global warfare that today often looks and sounds like a universal forest fire that has gotten out of hand, is, I submit, the loftiest conception thinkable.

IN his writings and addresses, Philip Murray has never retreated once from an insistence that this should be the common man's war, the war of Pat Murphy, the Irish hodcarrier; Abe Cohen, the Jewish garment maker; Sam Johnson, the steel worker, and all coal miners, farm hands, lumberjacks, longshoremen and other toilers. He has repeatedly stated that it is the common man who has to go out and die or be maimed on the battlefields and sea lanes and airways. It is the son of plain John Smith and Mary Smith, the kid of any race, color or national descent who was in love with a girl he may never see again, who is important —in Philip Murray's eyes.

COLLABORATE AS BROTHERS

When he urges human beings of all races to collaborate as brothers and equals in keeping production at a maximum, he lets them know that their organized unity for all-out production during war is to prove that there can be organized unity for all-out production in the inevitable years of post-war reconstruction. He tells them that just as labor and management together can produce the weapons of destruction, so also can they together produce all the necessities of life for themselves after the war is over, if they will but stand together.

It is as simple and true as the Gospels, that whenever everyone capable of working is employed at a fair wage and has buying power, capital will not need the great reserves it has always claimed to need. The banker-industrialist's pretext for huge reserve funds has always been that employment in other industries may adversely effect the buying power of the masses so that they cannot purchase his goods, thus jeopardizing his investment, and obliging him to get the biggest possible profits while the "getting is good."

BUT if everyone is working, which is only possible if all the Nation's industries are engaged in all-out production, and everyone is making a wage that gives him buying power, no essential peacetime industry will be in jeopardy, and this will mean less worries, less uncertainty, less risk for capital. Huge reserve funds will be unnecessary. Thus, says Philip Murray, there will be no honest excuse for paying low wages.

When every worker is employed and has buying power, production will be stabilized. The capricious elements of the excess profit system that has thrived on limited production through limited employment are bound slowly to vanish along with the respectable swindlers and "loaded dice" artists who played the dirty games of "free enterprise," part of which consisted in fostering labor disunity by paying Negro workers a lower wage for the same work while consequently establishing a lower base pay and a racially underprivileged class.

What is more, instead of workers being in one category, stockholders in another, as now, the worker and stockholder may eventually be one and the same person. The people, as managers and workers, may own the instrument of production, not the Government or Wall Street. Society may be stabilized again after four centuries of confusion.

THE credit system may slowly disappear. Our descendants may not have to hock their cars or their watches. Man's fight to control the machine will have been won for the individual. There may be fewer hours worked in the back-breaking, healthbreaking mills and mines and factories. Each human being, whether a manager or worker, may have more time to ponder life's meaning and his own, and marvel at God's beautiful creating.

Such is the basically religious vision of the CIO, as Philip Murray has proclaimed it in writings and addresses. He has gotten men of all races, creeds and political ideologies united in a solidarity based, as he wrote in "Labor's State in the Principle of the Dignity of Man," on the belief that the humblest worker, "being made to the image and likeness of God, should live in a way befitting human dignity."

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CIO's Political Action Committee

The Negro Worker - Today And Tomorrow

Informer — Houston, Tex.

By THYRA EDWARDS

8-26-44

Meet Ann Mason of CIO's Political Action Staff

I stopped in at the 42nd street, New York City, skyscraper home of CIO's Political Action Committee the other day. There's always something stirring around PAC, usually something of nat onal significance.

This time interest centered around slender, approximately 90-pound, brown-skinned Ann Mason, decidely good-looking and smart. On the hottest day—and New York's humidity makes Texas summers feel like a spring zephyr—Ann Mason was crisp and coolly trim in a pale blue linen princess dress, navy kid pumps and a becoming upsweep hairdo.

Miss Mason recently joined the PAC staff to lend a hand getting out the female vote in November —which means getting women folks to register now!

Women Are the Balance of Power This Election

"Women will have 50 per cent of the potential voting strength this election," Miss Mason reminded me. "So many men in the armed services, and the states' rights claims makes voting uncertain for them. It means that women have a responsibility—a patriotic duty to vote this year. And a grave responsibility to know what their vote means in specific terms of jobs after the war for the men in the service now. Then there'll be training and vocational needs and unemployment benefits until they can get adjusted to look around for work, and sickness insurance, and of course none of us want to risk going back to the flophouses and Hoovervilles of 1932."

I looked up a little surprised. She seemed too young to remember the grim Republican era of evictions and breadlines and tin can huts on dump heaps, and the bonus marchers.

8-26-44

She is 35, she assured me. I would have guessed 28, in an ungenerous moment.

No Jim Crow Assignments on CIO Staff

Miss Mason is the fourth field representative in the Women's Division of PAC. The chief is Mrs. Virda Barnes, a pleasant young woman who joined us for a moment.

There is no set-up in CIO for an exclusive Negro worker—a representative, Negro or white, works with all the people in the geographic region to which she is assigned. There are no racial assignments. The Political Action Committee is concentrating on the twelve states with the largest electoral vote—California, Texas, Missouri, Indiana, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, Massachusetts—particularly where organized groups are already set up.

Miss Mason wants her first assignment in the Middle West. That's familiar territory. She comes from Cincinnati, where she taught for twelve years at the Harriet Beecher Stowe school, and where she got an M.A. in education at the University of Cincinnati. She passed over these lightly. It's her work her volunteer work with CIO as a citizen that she enjoys telling of.

How A Volunteer Serves the Unions

She participated in the United Auto Workers drive to organize the Wright Aeronautical Plant in Cincinnati. The plant employes 30,000 people — 6000 are Negroes Wright's employs the largest number of Negroes in any war industry in Cincinnati. The city was divided—CIO, anti-CIO.

Miss Mason planned and promoted educational dinner meetings where citizens met labor. This was particularly helpful in educating women's organizations to what organized labor could do for Negroes. Recently white workers at Wright's threatened a walkout against the upgrading of Negro workers but the union stopped it quickly. Negroes in Cincinnati, Miss Mason says, now are definitely convinced that the CIO is the one opportunity in America to come into a non-discriminatory organization.

I wanted to talk some more about Cincinnati where so many industries exclude Negro workers and all exclude Negro women, but Miss Mason brought me back to the elections—the immediate item on the agenda.

Women, Check Your Congressman's Record

"There is reluctance on the part of Negro women to enter into politics," she said, "but they must join other women to make themselves felt, particularly in the selection of congressmen. They need the experience of studying the records of Congressmen and making decisions on the basis of the records which they can check themselves."

With the record Texas made this year in registering for the primaries the women have a claim, I think, to a visit from Ann Mason. The address, just in case your group is interested, is 205 E. 42nd street, New York City.

Ferdinand Smith Testimonial

The Worker — New York, N.Y.

Symbol of American Unity

9-24-44

By EUGENE GORDON

Ferdinand C. Smith, honored Wednesday night at a testimonial dinner by nearly 2,000 Negro and white men and women of all political faiths and from all walks of life, was recently honored by 17,000 seamen with a testimonial of another kind. They re-elected him secretary of their National Maritmie Union, CIO, by that many votes out of the 19,000 cast.

A majority of NMU members are white. Ferdinand C. Smith is not.

The Hotel Commodore dinner called attention to a third honor, his being chosen by his union and by the National Citizens Political Action Committee to tour the country in behalf of President Roosevelt's re-election. Capt. Hugh Mulzac shared honors with Smith at the dinner.

9-24-44

A spirit of anti-fascism enkindled the 17,000 seamen who, by secret ballot in a referendum election conducted by the Honest Ballot Association, returned Smith to his post. That spirit burned in the guests who packed the great ballroom.

Basil Harris, president of the United States Lines, justified at the outset the highest of expectations. The name of this industrialist was listed in the attractive menu folder as honorary chairman of the committee of sponsors. That fact indicated to the guests that they would see in the flesh one of the men of whom we have heard so much—an industrialist who would cooperate with labor in building a world in which all could live happily.

9-24-44

He justified their expectations when, in telling of the World-Telegram's efforts to scare him away from the meeting with tales that Curran and Smith were "reds," he said he asked, **"So, what?"**

That punchy, laconic, disarming and crushing query epitomized the spirit of the evening.

Mrs. Mary McLeod Bethune, head of the U. S. National Council of Negro Women, said the NMU "has meant much in the development of my people."

Oscar Chapman, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, said that under this administration Captain Mulzac, a Negro, became commander of the SS Booker T. Washington.

"We must continue unity of action," said Ferdinand Smith, "in peace as we have maintained it in war," and "We must have conditions in other industries similar to those in the NMU."

9-24-44

The reason why the World-Telegram and its cohorts oppose the NMU is that they oppose full employment, Smith said. And Joe Curran, in one of the most brilliant bits of lay-criticisms ever made of the "licentious press," pointed solemnly to similar rottenness just prior to Hitler's rise. He warned Roy Howard and his like to learn from what has happened in Italy and France "when you trifle with the temper of the people."

The temper of the people at that dinner was perfect!

CIO Racial Comm. Gives Awards To 8

Tribune — Philadelphia, Pa.

4-1-44

CHICAGO, Ill. — The National CIO Committee to Abolish Racial Discrimination went on record here today for an over-all program to be recommended to all CIO Councils throughout the country

The Committee also recommended that each state council appoint a liaison officer to coordinate its work in the fight on discrimination with the National Committee.

The Dawson-Scanlon Bill for permanent establishment of the Federal Employment Practices Committee was endorsed at the meeting.

The Committee also voted special awards of commendation to eight persons who have achieved distinction in the fight against discrimination.

Those named for the awards were Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, R. J. Thomas, president United Auto Workers, CIO; Irving Abramson, chairman of the National CIO Allied War Relief Committee; Jack Kroll, president of the Ohio State CIO Industrial Council; Lester B Granger, executive secretary. National Urban League; Miss Ruth Benedict, anthropologist and author of Races Of Mankind. Francis J. Haas, Bishop of Grand Rapids and former chairman of FEPC.

VIEWS and Reviews

By GEORGE S. SCHUYLER

Pittsburgh Courier — Penn.

(This column represents the personal opinion of Mr. Schuyler and in no way reflects the editorial opinion of The Pittsburgh Courier.—The Editors)

11-18-44

It seems obvious that the Political Action Committee of th CIO was in a large measure responsible for the victory of the Demo cratic party in the recent Presidential election. Undoubtedly its e forts in influencing and getting out the vote in the great industri centers swung the election to Roosevelt when it is considered tha FDR won by only 3,000,000 popular votes, the narrowest margin i which the President has won since he began running for the hig office in the autumn of 1932.

Unfortunately the PAC urged the election of Democrats ar some few Republicans it favored rather than organizing Labo politically for the election of its candidates. The men and women helped elect will be members of the Democratic and Republica machines, and in order to hold them in line and compel them vote in Congress in Labor's interest the PAC will have to keep ho ing threats of defeat over their heads. Experience has shown th in most instances Labor cannot entirely depend upon the "friend it supports at the polls and who owe allegiance to the old pa machines.

11-18-44

Since the Socialist party with its much depleted ranks was al to get on the ballot in 26 States, it stands to reason that the C with its far larger numbers, wealth and influence could have ente candidates on its own ticket in all States, and would have elect many State Legislators and Congressmen. Such elected repres tatives would have been definitely representatives of Labor, and t bloc thus created would have held the balance of power in Wa ington and wielded a great deal of power in several of the St Legislatures. In 1924 when LaFolette, Sr., ran for President on t Progressive ticket he polled around five million votes. The CIO-P with its tremendous numbers would have been able to poll ten twelve million votes, and regardless of which old party won t election, Labor would have been politically powerful and in a po tion to win the 1948 Presidential election, what with the inevita disillusion which will sweep the country due to post-war unemplo ment.

* * *

The PAC went after the scalps of several notorious Southe Democratic Congressmen in the primaries and either defeated th or forced them to retire. This caused great jubilation in its ran but there is no reason to suppose that the successors of these m will be any less Southern Democrats or any more liberal. The sa is true of the men and women it supported elsewhere. They remain members of the old parties, neither of which has a progra of any value to the working class. Neither old party can solve t problems of the post-war world because to do so would mean t death knell of the capitalist system which is responsible for une ployment and economic insecurity with all attendant evils. T pledges of Roosevelt and Dewey to furnish 60,000,000 post-war jo were worthless. The fact that they promised social security f everybody is an admission that they could not furnish full emplo ment. Workers fully employed at proper wages do not need soci security. The promises of lasting peace were also worthless. T cause of modern war is international capitalism, and neither o party even dreams of doing away with that.

* * *

Had the PAC formed a REAL Labor party, it would have r ceived the support of most workers and practically all liberals. could have enlisted in its campaign the same crooners, writers, acto and professionals that it did use so effectively. Long ago the mo enlightened and class conscious workers in England and some Eur pean countries realized that they could get nowhere by supportin capitalist party candidates, but must have their own political partie

This is why I held before the election that the PAC was mi leading the American workers, and I see no reason to change th opinion. As for the Negro workers and professionals, they are rig back where they were. The colonial system which American capitalis imposes on Puerto Rico, Cuba, Haiti, Santo Domingo, the Virgin I lands and other Caribbean lands will continue. The jim crow set-u in the armed forces and throughout the South will continue. Th Big 3 dictatorship over the other countries of the world will con tinue. The Administration will do no more for the Negro than i has. It will continue to represent American capitalism and mov swiftly toward fascism while inaugurating a huge post-war wag cut in the form of a bigger and better WPA with its fruitles boondoggling.

It would have been different if the PAC leaders had had th courage, intelligence and sincerity to make a clean break with th old order and come out for a genuine new deal in America. But i failed to do this and thus betrayed the American workers, black and white. Its Negro stooges and mouthpieces must share the re sponsibility for the disappointment and rage of the workers when they realize later on that they were sold down the river.

PAC Bringing Political Light Into South, Negro Woman Says

Daily Worker—New York, N.Y.

By LOLA PAINE

Negro women in the South are growing politically with the help of the CIO Political Action Committee, Mrs. Gladys Williams, president of the Women's Auxiliary of the National Maritime Union in New Orleans, said yesterday.

Mrs. Williams, herself a Negro and a long-time fighter against jimcrow, is a delegate to the third annual conference of the national auxiliary, currently meeting at NMU headquarters in Manhattan.

But Southern Negro women are also afraid, she said. Many of them have been intimidated by jimcrow agents and prejudices. The CIO's work has been slow—but steady. Through the auxiliary Negro women are getting pledge cards signed for President Roosevelt. They are visiting hospitals where merchant seamen are recovering from injury at sea. They work side by side with white women in civilian defense. They are working to see that their soldiers get ballots and, last but equally important, they turned out to register for the primaries in greater numbers than ever before. 7-18-44

'VOTING' IN NEW ORLEANS

"I registered to vote in our New Orleans primaries," Mrs. Williams explained, "and I had a hard time. It took me a whole day. Every time I filled out a blank, I was told that something was wrong with it. The man at the desk looked at it, smiled and tore it up.

"I went away and then I came back. He was still there. I filled out another blank. I stood up for my rights and at last I was registered."

Mrs. Williams' husband is a soldier. Her brother, uncle, cousin and other relatives are members of the NMU. 7-18-44

Another delegate, Mrs. Mary Smart, president of the Providence, R. I., auxiliary and a national vice-president, said that her husband sailed last week and that her auxiliary was backing him and all the other seamen by working hard at political action. A slender Portuguese woman, Mrs. Smart said that her No. 1 work was for FDR's re-election, the GI vote and seamen's unemployment compensation. Most of her auxiliary members are working in war plants, she said.

The conference will continue throughout the week, with Joseph Curran, president of the NMU, scheduled to speak today. Auxiliary delegates came from California, Louisiana, Minnesota, Rhode Island, Texas, New York, Massachusetts, Illinois and Pennsylvania.

7 Negroes On Political Action Body

Daily World Atlanta, Ga. 7-18-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.—(NNPA)—Seven outstanding Negroes are among the members of the National Citizens Political Action Committee, an outgrowth of the CIO-Political Action Committee, as announced by Sydney Hillman, chairman of the newly formed organization, in a press conference last week. The activities of the committee, will be "dedicated to the election of President Roosevelt and a progressive Congress." Mr. Hillman announced also that Vice-President Wallace was the choice CIO candidate for another term.

The Negro members of the committee are Dr. Mary McLeod Bethune, president of the National Council of Negro Women; Roscoe Dungee, editor and publisher of the Oklahoma (Oklahoma City) Black Dispatch; Judge William Hastie, dean of Howard University Law School; Paul Robeson, actor; Dr. Robert C. Weaver, director of the Mayor's Committee on Racial Relations in Chicago; Carter Wesley, publisher of the Houston Informer; and P. B. Young, publisher of the Norfolk Journal and Guide.

Of this group, Dr. Weaver was also named as a member of the eleven-man executive committee which will direct the activities of the group. Others on the executive committee are Elmer A. Benson, former governor of Minnesota; Van A. Bittner, CIO Political Action Committee; Freda Kirchway, publisher of the Nation; James Loeb, secretary of the Union Democratic Action, New York; James H. McGill, McGill Manufacturing Co. Valparaiso, Ind.; James G. Patton, President of the National Farmers' Union; and A. F. Whitney, president of the Brotherhood of Railroad Trainmen. 7-18-44

Mr. Hillman indicated that additions would be made to the 84 persons who have accepted membership on the National Citizens Political Action Committee. He insisted that the new committee is a non partisian organization, throwing its weight to both Democrats and Republicans according to their records on pertinent issues.

Negro Women Receiving Aid From CIO Committee

Daily World—Atlanta, Ga.

Give Them Aid On Political, Economic Fronts

7-28-44

NEW YORK, N. Y. — (SNS)—Negro women in the South are receiving virgorous aid from the CIO Political Action Committee in their fight for economic and political freedom, Mrs. Gladys Williams, president of the National Maritime Union Women's Auxiliary, stated here this week.

Mrs. Williams, herself a Negro, declared that the women encouraged by the CIO, are beginning to overcome their fear of the "white supremacy" gang and are actively campaigning for full citizenship.

She stated that Southern Negro women are registering in greater numbers than ever before and are doing an outstanding job in the distribution of ballots to servicemen. Further, she said, they are playing a vital part in sustaining the morale of injured Negro servicemen through visits to hospitals where wounded veterans are recovering. 7-28-44

Mrs. Williams, in New York for an NMU Women's Auxiliary conference, told of her personal experience registering—a story indicating that perseverance is of prime importance for Negroes practicing political action.

"I registered to vote in our New Orleans primaries," she explained, "and I had a hard time. It took me a whole day. Every time I filled out a blank I was told something was wrong with it. The man at the desk looked at me, smiled and tore it up."

"Later I came back," said Mrs. Williams. "He was still there. I filled out another blank. I stood up for my rights and at last I was registered."

CIO's PAC Tackles Poll Tax, Race Issues

Constitution—Atlanta, Ga.

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS.

A Virginia-born former educator, preaching racial tolerance and practical politics, is tackling for the Congress of Industrial Organizations the task of getting the south's "little man" to vote.

He is George S. Mitchell, of Richmond, Va., Rhodes scholar and former economics instructor at Columbia University, who directs the CIO's political action committee in nine southern states.

Mitchell

Fundamentally, explains Mitchell, "it's to get the 'little people' to turn in their ballots," adding, "most of our people never did vote before." 6-25-44

The government argues the CIO, runs the war and controls wages, hours, prices, housing, taxes and other matters vitally affecting each individual. Hence, says Mitchell, "we're interested in the kind of congressmen who will use their power to help the people in these great public matters. The chances of keeping much postwar work going rests in labor voting."

POLL TAX

One of the obstacles encountered by PAC has been the south's traditional poll taxes. The other has been hostility of white Democrats to proposals for Negro voting in Democratic primaries.

The Political Action Committee tackled the first problem by campaigning to get all who could afford it to register and pay their poll taxes.

In one Alabama town, prior to Mitchell's taking over in the south, nearly $2,000 was loaned to workers to help pay poll taxes—but this was a fractional amount compared to the sum paid by CIO members who provided their own poll taxes. Mitchell says the unions do not use their treasuries to pay poll taxes.

The racial problem was tackled by promoting "frank and trusting talks between those who have come to the top among Negroes, and those who have come to the top among whites. 6-25-44

Since CIO labor unions have no racial barriers, Negro membership may run as high as 60 per cent of the total enrollment in some locals on the southern coast. The percentage is less in mid-south manufacturing areas, and in some unions Negro membership is negligible or non-existent.

RACIAL TOLERANCE

Racial tolerance came to the CIO "because of hard necessity," explains Mitchell. "We tried time and again to get wages up and each time we split on the Negro question.

Understanding and tolerance have been promoted, he says, by meetings of both races under the same roof to discuss their similar problems and economic aims. There is no question of social equality, he continues. Union business is on the economic level.

Nevertheless, CIO leaders find it no easy matter to promote racial harmony because, says Mitchell, "a good many people in each southern industrial town would like to see unions disappear.

"One natural way to do this is to promote race differences."

Talks between white and Negro leaders usually have ironed these out.

"LITTLE MAN"

Although the CIO political action committee has indorsed President Roosevelt for a fourth term, and although it has been outspoken in opposition to certain representatives in congress, Mitchell says that the committee refrains from telling members how to vote. Instead, the committee is spending liberally from its $700,000 national fund to educate the "little man" in the use of his ballot.

Local units discuss and decide on support of local candidates and state groups similarly determine labor support of state candidates. The regional committee may advise and aid, but restricts its activities to national and congressional races. 6-25-44

Mitchell believes it is not difficult for the "little man" to decide whom he will support. Records and platforms are checked thoroughly. Meetings are held at which candidates are invited to speak, and at which they are discussed. In short order, the "little man" is decidedly aware how candidates feel on questions affecting him.

For the most part, PAC refrains from indorsement of southern candidates—at least for publication.

VOTE REGISTRATION

Registration of voters was not confined to industrial workers. Urgings were extended to farmers, but working people of all income group. Scores of white-collar workers and others in the lower income brackets.

What happened in some southern towns was reported by Charles Gilman, Georgia CIO director and latter newly enfranchised by constitutional amendment extending voting to those 18 years of age.

Atlanta area: 4,000 persons went to the courthouse and registered. Most of them never had voted before.

Americus in 1940 was 10,000. Americus: 1,200 registered, including many farmers and teen-agers, and here is what he found: Ga.: 1,000 registered. Population 10,000.

Greensboro: Union Point, Ga.: 1,000 registered. Combined population 4,000.

ANNE MASON, CIO FIELD REPRESENTATIVE receives initial instruction in her new work from Mrs. Verda Barnes, chairman of the Women's Division of the CIO Political Action Committee.

First Negro Woman Joins National CIO Staff

People's Voice — New York, N.Y. 7-22-44

By AUGUSTA STRONG

Anne Mason, youthful, earnest, vivacious—is the newest appointee to the Political Action Committee (PAC) of the Congress of Industrial Organizations and the only Negro woman ever to serve on its national staff. She arrived in New York this week from Cincinnati, Ohio to become one of three field representatives in the PAC Women's Division and is looking forward enthusiastically to beginning her new duties.

With long experience in working with women's organizations and in political action groups in her own city, Anne Mason feels confident that she can handle the many problems involved in carrying through the PAC program to "get out the vote" for a fourth term for President Roosevelt and the election of progressive candidates to Congress.

"This job is a real challenge," Miss Mason stated. "I have always sincerely believed that Negro women need to take more part in politics. Many women have a tendency to believe that participation in politics will besmirch them, while there truthfully are a good many things that they could change, if they were more active in politics." 7-22-44

Part of Miss Mason's job will be to help break down the reserve that has resulted in our country's having, usually, a far larger percentage of men than women voters. She is first interested in getting as many women as possible to register to vote in November—that is a question which she finds more important to work on in the smaller cities than in the large metropolitan areas where women have always voted in large numbers. She will work through the women in labor unions, through the families of men who are unionists, and with such organizations as sororities, women's clubs, and churches. 7-22-44

"It is an excellent time for this sort of thing," Miss Mason observes. "This year, with so many men in the armed services about 60% of the voters will be women. We will concentrate on getting votes for national candidates and work in sections with the largest electoral votes. I'll probably work first in Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Indiana." 7-22-44

Miss Mason's initiation into civic and political activities came in Cincinnati where she taught in the public schools for 12 years, while she spent her spare time fighting to open more job opportunities for Negro women and in breaking down "class lines" among women's clubs so that all might work together for common aims.

She was executive chairman of the Double V Council which cooperated with the FEPC in rooting out discrimination in war industries and which conducted a successful "Hold Your Job Campaign" with the Assistance of the Nat'l Council of Negro Women. When the United Auto Workers' Union (CIO) came to Cincinnati to organize the aircraft industry, she was among the community leaders who helped arouse public support for their efforts.

Public recognition of her useful service to the city was given last year when the local Alpha Kappa Alpha chapters choose her as "1944's Woman of the Year," inscribing the title on a little gold key which she wears proudly around her neck. 7-22-44

She is now prepared to bring her industry and resourcefulness into the CIO and she hopes, eventually, to find her permanent work in some phase of the labor movement. Her own union, incidentally, is the American Federation of Teachers (AFL).

Women's Vote

Her Job's for FDR

MISS ANNE MASON, prominent in midwestern women's activities, has been appointed a field representative for the CIO Political Action Committee, Women's Division, Sidney Hillman, PAC chairman, announced recently. Her job will be to get the feminine vote for FDR in the November election.

Miss Mason brings to her new position experience in newspaper work, education and Negro welfare. She is from Cincinnati, where she was staff correspondent of the Pittsburgh Courier and a teacher in the public school system.

As chairman of Cincinnati's "Double V" Council, she worked in cooperation with CIO unions for the integration of Negro women into industry and the elimination of unfair and discriminatory employment practices. She recently directed a highly successful registration drive among Cincinnati women.

Miss Mason is a graduate of the University of Cincinnati, with a master's degree in educational psychology. She is a member of the Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority whose Cincinnati chapter voted her "Woman of the Year" for 1944.

ANNE MASON

Phila. TWU Delegates Vote 119–1 To Back Jimcrow Ban by WMC

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

PHILADELPHIA, July 17.—Delegates of the 9,000 transport workers, CIO, have voted 119 to 1 to support the War Manpower Commission order banning discrimination in hiring and upgrading Negro men on the Philadelphia Transportation Co.

The overwhelming vote against Jimcrow was taken at a full meeting of the executive committee of Local 234 last night at the Broadwood Hotel. 7-18-44

In announcing the TWU support of the WMC order, James Fitzsimmons said the CIO union had urged a non-discrimination clause in the new contract about to be signed with the company, but that the company had refused.

Negro and white leaders hailed the almost unanimous anti-Jimcrow vote of the TWU as a repudiation of attempts by company unioneers to weaken the local through anti-Negro agitation. The new WMC rules do not cover the employment of Negro women.

TWU, Striving to End Strike In Phila., Fights Job Bias

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

8-4-44

CIO Transport Workers Union officials, working night and day to restore transportation to Philadelphia's strike-bound bus, subway and "el" lines, are carrying forward a fight for equal job opportunity which has been part of the union's policy since its inception. The TWU has always, like all CIO unions, barred discriminatory practices. But over and beyond constitutional provisions, it has a record of concrete achievement.

In 1941, when a fighting movement, led by the Rev. A. Clayton Powell, Jr., of the People's Committee, Hope Stevens of the National Negro Congress and Roger Straughn of the Harlem Labor Union demanded transportation jobs for Negroes, the union extended a helping hand. The result was that in the New York Omnibus Co. contract that was signed a unique provision was incorporated which provided that 200 Negroes would be taken on before any white help would be employed. A fixed minimum percentage of Negro employment is provided for. 8-4-44

Approximately 11 percent of New York City's 35,000 transit workers are Negroes, and Negro and white work harmoniously together.

The Third Ave. Transit Corp. dropped its all-white hiring policies during the war. City-owned lines have long employed Negroes, but the IRT and BMT, which formerly permitted such workers to rise only as high as guards and conductors, now offer them posts as motormen as well.

The TWU local in New Orleans has an outstanding record in fighting for the American principles of equal job opportunities. The membership there is both Negro and white, with Negroes in the majority. The local leadership is chiefly Negro. Harmonious Negro-white relations prevail in the other TWU locals.

A plea to Philadelphia transport strikers—Anthony Gallagher, organizer of the CIO Transport Workers Union, puts a back-to-work demand before motormen and drivers who left subways, buses and "els" paralyzed because of anti-Negro propaganda.

85k-1944

REDS CRITICIZED

Communist position on the Negro has undergone a "distinct and lamentable regression" in recent years, Richard Wright, author of "Native Son" and former party member, said here last week in describing Communists as "narrow-minded, bigoted, intolerant and frightened of new ideas which don't fit into their own."

Mr. Wright, writing in two monthly installments for Atlantic Monthly, the first of which appears in the August issue under the title "I Tried to Be a Communist", discusses his earliest experiences as a Communist party member in Chicago, touching on the problems he faced in trying to present his own ideas to the party.

His Communist party membership in Chicago, Mr. Wright said, covered the period from the latter part of 1932 or early 1933 to 1940. His early association with the Communists in Chicago, he said, was broken in 1937 when he was "ejected" from the party. On the outs with the party from about May until August, 1937, Mr. Wright said that he was reinstated in New York in 1937 and maintained relationships with the party until 1940 when he said he left the party.

Why there should be what he called the "lamentable regression" in the Community party position on the Negro, Mr. Wright said he didn't know. "Publicly," he said, "Communists will deny that there is any substantial change in their militancy but privately they offer any handy excuse. The militancy on the Negro question has passed into the hands of right-wing Negroes. That was not true eight years ago. Most of the battles then were led by Communists."

The Chicago rift between the Communists and himself, he said, "was an accumulation of many things — not so much a leaving as an action over a difference of opinion. I had a way of expressing my conception of Negro experience in writing. I thought it would be of value to them. They had their ideas of how I should react as a Communist. There was an irreconciliable gap between our attitudes."

The famous author said that "I do not regard the Communists toady as effective instruments for social change" and observed that "the Communists have a terrible lot to learn about people. Communists, peculiarly are too much the victims of the very society they are trying to change. This too often finds expression in intolerance and narrowness. I mean, general intolerance, in an imperious way of working. What it amounts to is that they are narrow-minded, bigoted, intolerant and frightened of new ideas which don't fit into their own, whether these ideas are right or wrong."

It will be interesting to see what, if any, comment the Communists make of this harsh criticism of them by so prominent a former party member as Richard Wright, world-famous author of "Native Son", a best seller and a hit on Broadway.

Communist

8-19-44 — New York, N. Y.

8-19-44

8-19-44

35k-1944

General

Roofing Workers Win Signal

Memphis World - Memphis, Tenn.

Victory At Lehon Roofing

Plant In Union Negotiations

6-13-44

A signal expression of the beneficial effects of unionism for Negro workers in Memphis, as elsewhere, was provided last week with the conclusion of the case of the workers of the Lehon Roofing Company, Corinne and Thomas Street (Most of the workers are Negroes). All are American Federation of Labor members.

The story was provided by Mr Cornelius Maiden, Americal Federation of Labor organizer stationed in Memphis. Maiden said:

"The contract of the Fededal Labor Union Number 23040 expireo last January 12, 1944. Then representatives of the union met with officials of the company to negotiate a new contract agreement and to have a re-classification of jobs at the local plant. The workers were receiving 47 cents per hour for their labor and were asking for 3 cents more per hour. 6-13-44

The plant officials met with tthe workers and discussed the issues but there were three points of disagreemnt; namely, the matter of retroactive pay for the time of the negotiations; maintenance of pay; and scale of wages.

No agreement could be reached, and so in accordance with usual procedure of labor relations a Federal conciliator was asked to come to Memphis. In this case it was Mr. Hunt. The workers' grievances were laid before him. Still no agreement could be reached despite the fact that Mr. Hunt called a meeting of a panel group consisting of a representative of labor, industry, and the public.

The panel group made specific recommendations to the War Labor Board's Fourth Regional unit headquarters in Atlanta, Ga. The War Labor Board made favorable rulings for the Lehon workers including matters concerning wages in which they received an increase of arbitration machinery including arrangement for adjusting disputes between workers and management; maintenance of pay and union security, assuring the union's continuation and classification of the pay scale; and machinery for adjustments of disputes along with vacation pay.

The dispute between the workers and management of Lehon Company occurred when the company refused to reach an agreement with the workers' demands for increased pay and vacations, with othe- items. 6-13-44

When the case was referrred to the War Labor Board the above recommendations were made. Now, under the leadership of C. Charles Johnson, for two years president of the local, the members are now organized to cooperate in the 30-day period of final negotiation with the company of the subject of job classification scheduled to be brought up in the next 30 days.

The Federal Labor Union Local Number 23040 was first organized about three years ago. White and colored men are members of the union. Skilled and semi-skilled work is performed by the Negro workers. The company manufactures roofing materials with operations being performed on machines and with work. 6-13-44

It was reported that the workers are pleased with the cooperation received from Mr. C. T. Herring, new manager of the local bransh of the Lehon Company. They say that since his incumbency relations between the workers and management have been most cordial despite the current disputes.

Cornelius Maiden, A. F. of L organizer said in an interview:

"It is the policy of Mr. Herman Gerig, American Federation of Labor organizer stationed in Memphis and myself not to trade vacations for wages. We hope to meet in the next week for the purpose of classifying the jobs in this plant, and to set the scale of classification subject to approval of the war Labor Board. We have both skilled and semi-skilled Negro labor in this plant and are entitled to the same scale as any other worker similarly employed. This company owns three plants in Wilmington, Ill., Chicago and Memphis. All are under American Federation of Labor contracts." 6-13-44

Maiden further said, Mr. Gerig and I hope to classify every plant that has any connection with any part of the agreement because in a lot of places workers are operating machines and doing skilled work and getting laborer's pay. I urge the Negroes of Memphis to prepare themselves to meet these classifications on jobs, to learn their trade, and prove efficient and prepare themselves to qualify when the job classifications are completed. I hope to have the opportunity to aid in re-classifying Negro workers at Armours Packing Company where I am sure of winning the election on June 13th. I hope labor will learn its lesson that "when organizers raid each other's plants they are harming the workers. There are enough unorganized workers in this country to keep organizers from fighting each other. Labor will soon make peace. I'm predicting what will happen. The Typographical workers, 80.000 strong, returned to the American Federation of Labor fold a few weeks ago.

Peace plans are being worked out with the Rubber workers international union."

Maiden smiled and said, "Someone will be caught on the outside of the gate when peace is made!" Then he walked out of the office.

Maintaining Negro Job Security a Union Task

By JAMES W. FORD

Job security is a subject of wide discussion in the Negro community. It is receiving serious attention by the CIO, and it must become the concern of the entire labor movement. Job security is of no less concern to millions of new workers in industry, women workers, returning veterans as well as Negro workers. It arises because of the expectation of large numbers of unemployed during reconversion and in the postwar.

Job security for Negro workers comes in a special category of protection because they are outranked by white workers in general employment as well as in upgraded jobs. This flows from the Jimcrow status of the Negro people. It struck them severely after the last war when hundreds of thousands were dismissed wholesale from industry in the absence of special protection.

JIMCROW STATUS

Although Negro workers have been employed in unprecedented numbers in this war, their inferior seniority status was well established long before Jimcrow was broken down and they had gained a foothold in industry. The policy which established this status was shaped by the example of one of the largest war plants in 1940 in these words: "it is not the policy of this Company to employ people other than the Caucasian race."

This is why the slogan which originated after the last war, "last to be hired and first to be fired," is so real and disturbing to Negro workers today.

TRADE UNIONS TO SOLVE

But there is no reason why this problem cannot be solved. It is a trade union question, and the trade unions are strong and farsighted. Negro workers, who number nearly one million in the trade unions, are good unionists.

It is a problem associated with the seniority questions. The seniority principle protects job rights. It is the right of priority to work dependent upon length of time in employment. Seniority protection is just as much a part of trade union principles as wage agreements, securing better working conditions, safety protection, a shorter working day and so on.

The seniority principle must remain inviolate. But it must be made to function in the fundamental interests of both white and Negro workers, and in these times it must be modified to meet the great changes in industry and to protect millions of new workers who have been added to labor's power. Modification must be designed, in the case of women workers, Negro workers and returning veterans, to maintain these workers in employment in proportion to their present numbers in industry and to protect those workers who are justified for consideration because of their war service. Moreover, Negro workers must be promoted to new jobs where there is expansion in industry.

LABOR AND MANAGEMENT

It seems that labor and management should get their heads together to solve this problem. The government policy established in the FEPC and the forward outlook of many great trade union organizations should be sufficient guarantee that the problem will be solved. It may be that solutions will have to be sought by industry and by individual trade union organizations, once the general principle is established.

It may be assumed however that some unions, especially certain craft unions of the AFL will commit blunders on this question. It may be expected that the worst offenders will be those craft policies as prevail in the Boilermakers Union and such other narrow sighted officialdoms. Their policy has been rigid exclusion of all new workers, and they tried to keep Negro workers out of jobs even in the war emergency. This policy of exclusion and Jimcrow must be fought against by all progressive workers. This must be done in the interest of national unity, and with the vision and foresight that American production possibilities are unlimited.

MILLION NEGROES

During the war more than 1,500,000 Negro workers were drawn into war industries. They have made great economic advance. Their living standards and social and political status have been raised as never before, and they have acquired prospects of further gains in the life of the nation.

They have purchased millions of dollars worth of war bonds, and they are justly proud of their contribution to the nation's war production in war plants from coast to coast, where they have acquired skill in many trades.

The Jimcrow status has been broken down m almost all industries and the right to a job on the basis of equality is one of the great achievements of the war. The trade unions have performed a heroic national duty in bringing about this changed situation which the Negro people now enjoy. This is why the expectation of loss of job security is a grievous thought for Negro workers.

LABOR UNIONS MOST POWERFUL FORCE IN NEGRO COMMUNITY

Northwest Herald Seattle, Wash. 10-18-44

In less than 10 years, the Labor Movement has become the most powerful force for progress in the Negro community. Ten years ago, there were less than 3,000,000 union members in the then labor movement the A. F. of L. and Railroad Brotherhoods in the country. The average Negro feared that to join a union meant to lose his job; however, most unions barred Negro members.

Of the few Negroes who belonged to unions, many complained their union did not give Negroes equal protection and benefits with whites. It can safely be stated that less than 100,000 Negroes were among the 3,000,000 union workers in the country. The only nationally known Negro labor leaders were A. Philip Randolph, president, Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, A. F. of L., and Frank R. Crosswaith, general organizer, International Ladies Garment Workers Union. The Negro community knew little and cared less about what were the activities and problems of labor unions.

Today, the picture of our community is quite different. Today, the labor unions are the greatest force for progress in the Negro community. It is estimated that out of 13,000,000 Negroes, 1,500,000 are members of CIO and A. F. of L. unions. This great grouping of Negroes is the largest of any mixed or Negro group in the country, except the armed forces. No church, fraternity, lodge, or society, Negro or interracial, has one-half this number of Negroes as members. As a result, today, the teachings Negroes are learning as union members is becoming the yardstick to guide the Negro community.

The Labor Movement has the most powerful force for progress in the Negro community because regardless of its shortcomings, the unions are teaching the Negro basically that in Unity there is Strength. The church previously could have been called the most powerful force in the Negro community. However, the church failed to establish the basic idea for progress, Unity, because due to denominationalism, the Negro community was divided into groups of Baptists, Methodists, Episcopalians, Catholics and Holy Rollers. Each vied with the other for leadership of the Negro community.

True, the labor movement is divided into the CIO and A. F. of L., but both labor groups teach their members including the Negro that Unity will bring Victory in the common cause for a Better Life here on Earth.

Where the Negroes feared unions yesterday, today Negroes look to the labor unions with hope for a New Day. This has come because the Labor Movement has been the most outstanding group in the nation that has courageously faced problems where the other groups failed. During the dark years of depression from 1929-1933, it was the labor movement that challenged the nation to protect the dignity of humanity by adapting Federal laws for Unemployment Insurance, Old Age Pensions, Social Security, Farm Relief, Small Home Owners Loans, etc. When each of these great progressive laws were adopted, thousands of Negroes all over the land reaped benefits. Then when the Labor Movement called upon the Federal government to adopt a law to "protect the workers' rights to join unions" and it was done, the Negro came nearer "real" emancipation for the first time since 1865. Following this, the Negro community became progressively interested in its own welfare and that of the nation.

The unions went out to organize labor everywhere. In Texas, Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Florida, Tennessee, whites and Negroes were organized into unions and realized by being united they gained better conditions and wages. White workers learned that where Negroes were paid less for the same job, the Negroes "in their own way" worked accordingly and therefore the work for the white worker on the same job was more laborous. Both learned that unity pays greater dividends than racial bitterness.

Progress of the Negro worker is not confined to the shop and mill, but also within the labor unions themselves. There is more Negro representation in the leadership of unions than in any other group in the country; 1,500,000 Negro union members who have learned that in unity there is strength.

We must re-mold our community lift to include representatives of Labor. The leadership of the Negro community no longer is the "kingdom" of the Talented Tenth. The Negro labor leader represents the backbone of the Negro community, the workers. The Negro labor leader is interested in better schools, elimination of slums and building of low cost houses, modern hospitalization, protection of civil rights, etc.

The great labor movement stands with him to support you in our common cause.

WASTED MANPOWER

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.

By ALBERT BLACK

"HE WHO LIVES IN A GLASS HOUSE SHOULD NEVER THROW STONES"

2-19-44

THE Executive Councils of the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. have been invited to attend the World Labor Conference to be held on June 5 in London. This invitation was attended by the British Trades Union Council and has been accepted by the C. I. O.

BLACK

The A. F. OF L. declined to take part because the Soviet Trade Unions would also be represented. The reason for this position was that the A. F. of L. objects that these trade unions are not "truly free and democratic" but are agencies of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet trade unions are, of course agencies of the Soviet Government, just as business and industry are, but this has not kept American industry and finance from cooperating with Russia on the Lend-Lease program to help the war effort.

It is utterly ridiculous and disgraceful that the A. F. of L. leadership cannot yet understand what the definition of democracy is. I will agree that Russia's trade unions are not as free and democratic as some of ours, but the A. F. of L. certainly cannot be included in the category of free and democratic trade unions.

The American Federation of Labor is American in name only. It is certainly Fascist in its attitude and policy toward colored Americans. President Green of the A. F. of L. vividly exposed his Executive Council's position in regard to minorities when they were opposed to the modification of the Chinese Exclusion Laws. Green and his Council have failed to learn the elementary facts of sociology, our Constitution and the Bill of Rights that our high school students are learning daily. Their attitude towards the Chinese shows their social blindness in regards to the millions of humans who have suffered, starved, been tortured and murdered by the same enemy that is trying to destroy them.

The record of the A. F. of L. in comparison to Soviet unions is certainly a bad one. I cannot think of any organization that has a more self-centered group of reactionary bureaucrats than the A. F. of L. Executive Council. Their record reeks with the stench of Fascism.

Fifteen of their unions exclude Negroes by constitutional law; five by tacit consent, nine others put Negroes into Jim crow locals. The unions most guilty are the A. F. of L. Unions and Railroad Brotherhoods. Three unions exclude aliens, twenty-two (22) others require first papers. Four unions discriminate against aliens by charging them higher initiation fees! Several unions exclude members on political grounds, among those being Communists and I. W. W. (Industrial Workers of the World).

In many of their unions it is dangerous to exercise free speech against the officials in power. Their trade union press is not a model of free discussion. Devices for packing conventions and controlling the key committees are successfully employed. As a result of this undemocratic procedure, reactionary union leaders who make up the Executive Council stay in power till the day when they wilt away. 2-19-44

Last week the Seafarer's International Union, A. F. of L., and the Sailors Union of the Pacific A. F. of L. were investigated by the Smith Investigating Committee. Spokesmen of both Unions insist that the War effort is being hampered while Negroes eat the same food and bunk in with their union members.

The Seafarer's Union is said to have a long standing policy of segregation. Last January the New York branch resolved that union members be ordered to walk off their ships if attempts to "checker-board" the crews were attempted. This action just carries out the undemocratic policy of the A. F. of I. Executive Council.

People ask why are colored Americans treated in this manner by the A. F. of L.? There are two simple answers, They have singled out the Negro as their foremost victims because their reactionary leadership is still living in the pre-Civil War days. But possibly the best answer comes from workers who are leaving the A. F. of L. and joining the only true democratic organization in the country, the C. I. O.

What I am trying to do is to point out that what is involved in the Fascist policy of the A. F. of L. is the doom of thousands of workers regardless of what race they represent. This humanitarian aspect that has united millions of workers into a strong organization in opposition to their unfair policy has enlisted sympathy for all the oppressed within the A. F. of L.

THE A. F. OF L., BEFORE IT STARTS THROWING STONES AT ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION, SHOULD FORTIFY ITS OWN HOUSE FIRST BECAUSE NO HOUSE STANDS LONG WHEN ITS FOUNDATION IS BUILT UPON RACIAL BIGOTRY, PREJUDICE AND JIM CROWISM.

Two Policies on Negro Workers

The Conventions Of the CIO and AFL

THE CIO and AFL conventions revealed two lines of policy and two results in relation to Negro workers.

by James W. Ford

The CIO convention called upon Congress to make the Fair Employment Practices Committee permanent, called for abolition of Jimcrow, the poll tax, and any other form of discrimination and bigotry, and urged all of its affiliated unions to renewed vigilance against any form of racial discrimination.

There is an example of a great trade union organization, acting in the spirit of democracy, boldly defending the interests of Negro workers in their right to work at all worked in unity with their white brothers jobs and all trades without discrimination. to formulate a program of labor solidarity That's what the entire labor movement should for national unity behind our Commander- do. That is what the true face of labor in-Chief. They passed resolutions on international unity, labor unity, international would look like if race prejudice were re- national labor unity and decided to send labor solidarity, anti-Sovietism, attacks on moved from its ranks. delegates to the London conference in Feb- the President of the USA, the AFL reached a The CIO strikes a blow against racist ruary. new low level.

theories and practices, the stock in trade! The CIO convention demonstrated the The convention passed a mild resolution in support of a permanent FEPC. But they nullified this by declaring they would not tolerate the FEPC or any legislation, which would hold unions unfair for discrimination policies.

Betrayal of the interest of Negro workers by social democracy in the person of David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU was also revealed in this discussion. In the past Dubinsky has absented himself from the convention when the Negro question was being discussed and did not vote. This year he put forward one of his lieutenants to speak against the equal rights resolution and in the voting Dubinsky supported the bureaucracy to kill the proposals in favor of merely confining AFL efforts to "education."

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The AFL officialdom rejected these proposals. This was one point of which the convention atmosphere became heated. Some officials fell upon delegate Randolph with cowardly and dastardly attacks. They accused him of being an "outsider" and "professional agitator." A white delegate spoke in defense of Randolph and he likewise was attacked by the bureaucracy. On all questions of unity, labor unity, international unity, labor solidarity, anti-Sovietism, attacks on the President of the USA, the AFL reached a new low level.

PROOF of the genuineness of the policy of the CIO is the fact that it mobilizes all the resources and energies of its members to turn out the means for speeding up the military debacle of Hitlerite Germany and all her vassals. This policy means mobilizing all available manpower including Negro workers.

At the CIO convention there were more than a score of Negro delegates and they represented the interests of Negro workers in their right to work at all worked in unity with their white brothers jobs and all trades without discrimination. to formulate a program of labor solidarity That's what the entire labor movement should for national unity behind our Commander- do. That is what the true face of labor in-Chief. They passed resolutions on international unity, labor unity, international would look like if race prejudice were re- national labor unity and decided to send labor solidarity, anti-Sovietism, attacks on moved from its ranks. delegates to the London conference in Feb- the President of the USA, the AFL reached a The CIO strikes a blow against racist ruary. new low level.

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Nazi policy of anti-Semitism, anti-Negroism and "divide and conquer" by which Hitler suppressed trade unions in Germany and all the world.

35k-1944

WASTED MANPOWER

Tribune - Philadelphia, Pa.

By ALBERT BLACK

"HE WHO LIVES IN A GLASS HOUSE SHOULD NEVER THROW STONES"

2-19-44

THE Executive Councils of the A. F. of L. and C. I. O. have been invited to attend the World Labor Conference to be held on June 5 in London. This invitation was extended by the British Trades Union Council and has been accepted by the C. I. O.

BLACK

The A. F. OF L. declined to take part because the Soviet Trade Unions would also be represented. The reason for this position was that the A. F. of L. objects that these trade unions are not "truly free and democratic" but are agencies of the Soviet Union.

The Soviet trade unions are, of course, agencies of the Soviet Government, just as business and industry are, but this has not kept American industry and finance from cooperating with Russia on the Lend-Lease program to help the war effort.

It is utterly ridiculous and disgraceful that the A. F. of L. leadership cannot yet understand what the definition of democracy is. I will agree that Russia's trade unions are not as free and democratic as some of ours, but the A. F. of L. certainly cannot be included in the category of free and democratic trade unions.

The American Federation of Labor is American in name only. It is certainly Fascist in its attitude and policy toward colored Americans. President Green of the A. F. of L. vividly exposed his Executive Council's position in regard to minorities when they were opposed to the modification of the Chinese Exclusion Laws. Green and his Council have failed to learn the elementary facts of sociology, our Constitution and the Bill of Rights that our high school students are learning daily. Their attitude towards the Chinese shows their social blindness in regards to the millions of humans who have suffered, starved, been tortured and murdered by the same enemy that is trying to destroy them.

The record of the A. F. of L. in comparison to Soviet unions is certainly a bad one. I cannot think of any organization that has a more self-centered group of reactionary bureaucrats than the A. F. of L. Executive Council. Their record reeks with the stench of Fascism.

Fifteen of their unions exclude Negroes by constitutional law; five by tacit consent, nine others put Negroes into Jim crow locals. The unions most guilty are the A. F. of L. Unions and Railroad Brotherhoods. Three unions exclude aliens, twenty-two (22) others require first papers. Four unions discriminate against aliens by charging them higher initiation fees! Several unions exclude members on political grounds, among those being Communists and I. W. W. (Industrial Workers of the World).

In many of their unions it is dangerous to exercise free speech against the officials in power. Their trade union press is not a model of free discussion. Devices for packing conventions and controlling the key committees are successfully employed. As a result of this undemocratic procedure, reactionary union leaders who make up the Executive Council stay in power till the day when they wilt away. 2-19-44

Last week the Seafarer's International Union, A. F. of L., and the Sailors Union of the Pacific A. F. of L. were investigated by the Smith Investigating Committee. Spokesmen of both Unions insist that the War effort is being hampered while Negroes eat the same food and bunk in with their union members.

The Seafarer's Union is said to have a long standing policy of segregation. Last January the New York branch resolved that union members be ordered to walk off their ships if attempts to "checker-board" the crews were attempted. This action just carries out the undemocratic policy of the A. F. of I. Executive Council.

People ask why are colored Americans treated in this manner by the A. F. of L.? There are two simple answers, They have singled out the Negro as their foremost victims because their reactionary leadership is still living in the pre-Civil War days. But possibly the best answer comes from workers who are leaving the A. F. of L. and joining the only true democratic organization in the country, the C. I. O.

What I am trying to do is to point out that what is involved in the Fascist policy of the A. F. of L. is the doom of thousands of workers regardless of what race they represent. This humanitarian aspect that has united millions of workers into a strong organization in opposition to their unfair policy has enlisted sympathy for all the oppressed within the A. F. of L.

THE A. F. OF L., BEFORE IT STARTS THROWING STONES AT ANY OTHER ORGANIZATION, SHOULD FORTIFY ITS OWN HOUSE FIRST BECAUSE NO HOUSE STANDS LONG WHEN ITS FOUNDATION IS BUILT UPON RACIAL BIGOTRY, PREJUDICE AND JIM CROWISM.

Two Policies on Negro Workers

The Conventions Of the CIO and AFL

by James W. Ford

THE CIO and AFL conventions revealed two lines of policy and two results in relation to Negro workers.

The CIO convention called upon Congress to make the Fair Employment Practices Committee permanent, called for abolition of the poll tax, Jim crow, and any other form of discrimination and bigotry, and urged all of its affiliated unions to renewed vigilance against any form of racial discrimination.

There is an example of a great trade union organization, acting in the spirit of democracy, boldly defending the interests of Negro workers in their right to work at all jobs and all trades without discrimination. That's what the entire labor movement should do. That is what the true face of labor would look like if race prejudice were removed from its ranks.

The CIO strikes a blow against racism and fascism in support of a permanent FEPC. But they nullified this by declaring they would not tolerate the FEPC or any legislation, which would hold unions unfair for discrimination in their policies.

Betrayal of the interest of Negro workers by social democracy in the person of David Dubinsky, president of the ILGWU was also revealed in this discussion. In the past Dubinsky has absented himself from the convention when the Negro question was being discussed and did not vote. This year he put forward one of his lieutenants to speak against the equal rights resolution and in the voting Dubinsky supported the bureaucracy to kill the proposals in favor of merely confining AFL efforts to "education."

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Nazi policy of anti-Semitism, anti-Negroism and "divide and conquer" by which Hitler suppressed trade unions in Germany and almost subjugated countries and almost all the world.

Headquarters of Teamsters' Union

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-12-44

op photo, members of the Teamsters' Union relax in the lounge n of their headquarters, where they are waiting to be dispatched heir next job. Lower photo shows exterior view of the spacious ding occupied by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, ers, Chauffeurs and Helpers, Local 639, at 1500 Thirteenth Street, Northwest, Washington.

Democratic Teamsters' Union Has 800 Members

Afro American — Baltimore, Md.
8-12-44

WASHINGTON.

he International Brotherhood Teamsters, Chauffeurs, Stable- and Helpers at 1500 Thir- th Street, Northwest, has ut 800 colored members, A. W. eam, white, president of the lo- revealed to the AFRO this k.

hree are members of the exec- e board. Paid officials, they are mett Sachry, Samuel Welch and e Brown.

rganized in Washington in 1934 ocal 639 of the AFL, the broth- ood has a total membership of 0 colored and white members. here are eight other similar ls of the same union in the city with a combined membership of 7,000 men, Mr. Stream said.

The union membership embraces all men who work on delivery trucks except route salesmen, such as milk men and drivers of bread trucks.

Mr. Stream said that government employees are eligible for membership but very few belong, because they can only receive pay raises through an act of Congress.

Mr. Stream said that any time 50 per cent of the employees of a firm join the union, the brotherhood can, under the Wagner Act, proceed to negotiate a contract with the employing firm.

He said that the brotherhood had negotiated some eighty contracts in the Washington area embracing a radius of 60 miles from the city and said that union membership entitled the union members to work at any firm in any city holding a contract with the brotherhood.

William Hicks, 54 Patterson Street, Northeast, a member for fifteen years now employed as a janitor at the brotherhood headquarters, describes it as the best job he ever had.

Mr. Stream said that the union was first organized many years ago when horses were the principal means of transportation and that the entire name is retained for sentimental and historical reasons.

35k-1944

Nigerian Delegate To ILO Guest At Dinner Here

Washington, D.C.
5-17-44

E. A. Esua, Nigerian representative on the British Empire's delegation to the recently concluded International Labor Organization conference in Philadelphia, was the guest of honor Monday night of Obon Prince P. Eket Inyang-Udoh, attached to the Nigerian legation here, at a dinner held in the Bengasi Club, 1425 U st. nw.

Esua, who is general secretary of the Nigeria Union of Teachers, told the group he had served on the conference's committee on social and economic minimum standards, acting as technical adviser.

5-17-44

Among those present were Daniel Theard, Second Secretary of the Haitian Legation; Truman Gibson, an aide to Secretary of War Stimson; Dr. Alain Locke of Howard University; George W. Goodman, Red Cross executive; Dr. E. Franklin Frazier, professor of sociology at Howard University, and Mrs. Frazier, and Mrs. Virginia McGuire, former member of the District Board of Welfare.

Today's Guest Column

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

The ILO's Principles On Aid to Colonial Peoples

THE 26th session of the International Labor Organization, which concluded its deliberations in Philadelphia last week, must be regarded as another important forward step in the cementing of international solidarity directed toward the achievement of common democratic objectives. This is true despite several shortcomings, the chief of which was the non-participation of representatives of the Soviet Union in the conference.

As was made clear in the much discussed and much distorted Izvestia editorial, the ILO at present is in the anomalous and unhealthy condition of being the only living organ of an otherwise archaic and defunct body, the League of Nations, and it can only do effective work as a United Nations organization. Walter Nash, the New Zealand government delegate and president of the conference, reflected the sentiment of the delegates when he expressed the belief that the ILO would become a United Nations agency and that the Soviet Union would then reaffiliate with it. "The ILO can't work without the Soviet Union," he said. 5-18-44

One of the most important points on the agenda of the conference was the consideration of "Minimum Standards of Social Policy in Dependent Territories"—or what might be better called a charter of economic and social rights for colonial people. This charter, however, concerns not only the peoples of Africa, Asia, the Caribbean and other dependent areas: it concerns America and the world.

by Max Yergan

For it recognizes the fundamental fact that postwar economic security in our more industrially developed half of the world depends upon increasing production and raising living standards in the colonial peoples' half of the world. Modern productive capacities require world-wide markets. Hence the necessity of international collaboration for the development of an economy of abundance and social progress for all peoples, and especially those lowest down the scale.

* * *

THE general principles in the recommendation on Social Policy in Dependent Territories, as approved by the conference last week, urged financial and technical assistance on an international and regional as well as national basis. It proposed this aid in the economic development of dependent territories and parallel action to establish conditions of trade consonant with reasonable living standards and to promote social services in those territories. The principles further declared that the interests and well-being of the dependent peoples must be the primary consideration in all developmental undertakings, and that "all possible steps should be taken effectively to associate the people of the dependent territories in the framing and execution of measures of social progress."

There is only one essential point lacking in these principles, and that is that all developmental programs should be directed toward the achievement of self-government by the colonial peoples. The ILO did not have authority to cross over from economic to political questions, the facts of life notwithstanding.

The importance of the principles outlined above and their practical meaning in relation to specific dependent and semi-dependent areas were ably brought out in Vicente Lombardo Toledano's address to the conference in which he set forth the requirements for integrating Latin American countries into a progressive postwar world by constructive economic developments in the interest of these countries. The Chinese and Indian worker delegates expressed a similar point of view with regard to their countries.

* * *

THERE is no provision for delegates from colonial areas to the ILO. The addition of such delegates was one of the recommendations which the Council on African Affairs laid before the conference. But it is important to note that two colonial Africans were present at the conference as advisers to the British and French worker delegates. In their homeland these Africans hold the posts of general secretary of the Nigeria Union of Teachers and secretary general of the Federation of Trade Unions of Native Workers, French West Africa. 5-18-44

Although their advisory status should be elevated to that of full delegates, the presence of these Africans at the ILO conference like the participation of representatives of the West Indian people in the conference a short time ago of the Anglo-American Caribbean Commission, is a sign of the new times in which we live. Mutual cooperation for mutual benefits is today's watchword. And that, if anything, is what we must mean when we say the age of imperialism is ended.

All Races Map World Program

International Labor Meeting Under Way

Courier — Pittsburgh, Pa.

4-29-44

35K

By JACK SAUNDERS, Staff Correspondent

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—The color of a man's skin or the texture of his hair means little or nothing at the International Labor conference which opened here last Thursday, because dark-skinned representatives from nations, countries and colonies throughout the world are playing stellar roles in this convocation, calculated to improve labor conditions in America, Africa, Haiti, India, Ethiopia, Liberia, and sundry other countries, when the Axis nations are defeated and peace comes to the world.

Nothing specifically has been said at the conference—or by any conference delegates or delegate relative to the Negro labor situation in the United States—but to this observer, the conference, scheduled to convene here for the next five weeks, with general sessions being held on the Temple University campus, is adhering strictly to its policy of "no discrimination on account of race, creed, or color."

MANY MAKE DEMANDS

Dark-skinned labor leaders and labor experts from the far corners of Haiti, Africa, and India are in evidence at all meetings, and many have expressed far-reaching opinions and made demands from the floor that their respective nations be given merited recognition and equal opportunity in the labor renaissance due to take place in the post-war period.

Sponsored by the International Labor organization, which for a quarter of a century has maintained the principle that peace can be established only if it is based on social justice, the conference is seeking to establish minimum standards for labor in Negro republics and colonies of the United Nations. 4-29-44

One of the most active of the delegations from Negro republics is the entourage from Haiti. A spokesman for the group told The Courier that while Haiti at present has little or no labor problem, one is anticipated after the war, "and that is why we are here."

BIG HAITIAN DELEGATION

Two delegates have been sent to the conference by the Haitian government. They are being assisted by four advisers and a delegation secretary. The delegates are: Maurice Dartigue, Secretary of State for Agriculture and Labor, and vice-chairman of the Board of Social Insurance fund; and Jules Thebaud, director general of the National Health and Welfare Service and member of the Board of Social Insurance fund. Advisers are: Jean Artaud, commercial and economic attache', Embassy of Haiti, Washington, D.C.; Max Hudicourt, journalist; Dr. Louis Roy, member of the National Health and Welfare Service and chairman of the Anti-Tuberculosis league, and Dr. Auguste Denize, of New York and Philadelphia. Max Fouchard is secretary. 4-29-44

The only African member of the British delegation to arrive during the first days of the conference was E. E. Esua, general secretary of the Nigeria Union of Teachers. A teacher by profession, Mr. Esua is listed as a British delegation adviser. His colleagues are all white, and they live at the same hotel, the Sheraton, at 19th and Walnut streets.

Up to last Friday, the Republic of Liberia had but one delegate, Walter F. Walker, Consul General of New York. No delegation is listed in the conference manual for Ethiopia, but Emperor Haile Selassie's nation is expected to be represented before the conference ends.

India's delegation, composed of olive-skinned, straight-haired men from Bombay, Calcutta, and other states, is regarded as one of the most important attending the conference. Jamnadas Mehta, workers' delegate and a member of the Indian Legislative Assembly, told The Courier that sectional interests created in India by Great Britain's "divide-and-rule" plan rather than any expression of pro-Axis sympathy are responsible for India's apparent disinterest in the outcome of the war. 4-29-44

SECTIONAL INTEREST

"Under England's policy of 'divide-and-rule,'" Mr. Mehta said, "India was torn into communal and sectional organiaztions which work against the common welfare in the narrow belief that such a policy is to their own individual interests.

"If anything has made India appear out of the war, it is this sectional interest, and not the least sign of sympathy toward Germany or Japan. In this, India's opinion is unanimous—the Axis powers must be defeated if the world is to live in peace and security. To this end, the Indian worker is doing all he can."

Other members of the Indian delegation who have arrived here are: Aldab Ali, president of the Indian Seamen's union; Dr. P. P. Pillai, head of the ILO in India, and D. G. Mulherker, Indian employers' delegate.

Projected into the spotlight as the conference opened was a brownskinned Mexican, Senor Vincente Toledano, who waged a stiff fight to prevent delegates from pro-Nazi Argentina from being seated. Senor Toledano, head of the Latin-American Labor federation, based his contention on the purported fact that Argentina is a Fascist government. 4-29-44

In a message to the conference, President Roosevelt said, in part: "We know that the conditions of a lasting peace can be secured only through soundly organized economic institutions, fortified by humane labor standards, regular employment, and adequate income for all the people."

35k-1944

Back IWO Drive For Negro Members

Thirteen Negro and white leaders in the fields of education, art and letters, religion, and labor have individually endorsed the International Workers Order campaign to enroll 6,000 Negro Americans into its fraternal ranks by May 31, 1945.

Among them are Rev. J. C. Austin, pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church, Chicago; Rev. Shelton Hale Bishop, pastor St. Philip's Episcopal Church, New York; Dr. Charlotte Hawkins Brown, president, Palmer Memorial Institute; Henrietta Buckmaster, author of Deep River; Rev. Thomas J. Harten, pastor, Holy Trinity Baptist Church, Brooklyn; State Senator Stanley Nowak of Michigan; Shelton Tappes, recording secretary, Ford Local 600, UAW-CIO; Philip Weightman, international vice president, United Packinghouse Workers, CIO and Roy Wilkins, editor, The Crisis, official NAACP publication.

35k-1944

International Ladies Garment Workers Union

4 Negro Women Seek Posts in Local 22 Poll

Daily Worker - New York, N.Y.

2-2-44

By Dorothy Loeb

Four Negro women are among the candidates seeking posts on the executive board of Dressmakers Local 22 of the International Ladies Garment Workers Union in the hotly contested elections which take place soon.

The four, who will be formally introduced to Local 22 rank and filers at a campaign rally tonight (Wednesday) after work at the Hotel Diplomat, all have as their first aim the unification of the union and the elimination of "group control" which they say, is a system denying democracy.

All four say, too, that the present union administration, headed by Charles Zimmerman, shows an indifferenct to fighting against discrimination which they hope their candidacy will help to crack.

They are running on the rank and file ticket, one fourth of the total of 16 candidates who have entered the race on a win-the-war slate for unity in Local 22, to win an improved agreement, for international labor unity and for all-out support of every victory issue.

MILDRED PETERS

Mildred Peter, a draper, 10 years in the industry and union, who has been active in the Local 22 education department, in athletics and as a library volunteer, is in deadly earnest about her race to get on the executive board. 2-2-44

"I figure I can make a real contribution to the union, if I'm elected," she told the Daily Worker. "My first interest would be to work for the unity of the whole union, to work for democracy, which doesn't exist as it should. But I feel, too, that my election could serve to stimulate the union's fight against discrimination and put it on a lively, active basis. It isn't like that now."

Florine Anderson, another of the four, is an examiner. Conditions in her own shop, Channels Frocks, W. 35th St., particularly spurred her to accept nomination for a post of leadership, she said. She and her shopmates only saw a business agent three times since last May, she explained, and rarely had meetings although there were many union issues. 2-2-44

HER RESPONSIBILITY

"I feel that if I take my responsibility, it would help to make the union work better," she said. "The Negro people don't seem satisfied. They feel the union administration should do a lot more. I feel that if we can build unity in the union, do away with the groups, we can really accomplish what all of us want."

Miss Mae Wilson and Mrs. Mabel Brown are both finishers. Both are critical of the Zimmerman administration which they say "leaves the Negro question alone." "There's a sort of indifference to the way the administration handles the matter," Mrs. Brown said. "On the executive board, we should be able to change that. A member of the union since 1934, she works over at the Bedford Dress Co., she said. Her shopmates there know she is a candidate and are giving her their support and organizing to see that she wins election.

5 Rank and File Negro Women ILG Candidates

Daily Worker

New York, N.Y.

2-14-44

Five of the candidates of the Rank and File of Dressmakers, Local 22, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, are Negroes.

This is the largest number of Negro candidates that has yet been put forward in any election in the history of the large local, a clear indication that some 3,000 Negro members of the union are beginning to speak up.

The candidates are Bertha Edgecombe, Catherine Moreland, Mabel Brown and May Wilson, for the executive board, the last two also for convention delegates; Mildred Peters for relief committee.

Their candidacy has drawn much of the interest of Harlem and other Negro-populated communities in the city. The voting in the union will be another indication of the extent to which white workers show support for Negroes.

Local 22 will cast ballots next Thursday. All Rank and File candidates will attend the final campaign rally Wednesday night at Hotel Diplomat.

Appealing to the local's Negro voters, the Rank and File pointed to its program that calls for training and promotion opportunities to those in "minority crafts" for better paid work at operating. The bulk of the Negroes in the local are in these lower-paid categories.

A considerable number of members in the local of Spanish or Latin American origin are in a similar position. 2-14-44

One reason why the position of Negro and Spanish members has not been bettered is inadequate or purely formal representation in the leadership of the union. Local 22 is believed to have a larger number of Negro members than any other ILGWU affiliate.

5 Negro Candidates In ILGWU Campaign

Amsterdam News - New York

Five of the candidates of the Rank and File Dressmakers, Local 22, International Ladies' Garment Workers' Union, are Negroes. This is the most of Negro candidates that has yet been put forward in the large local which has over 3,000 Negro members. 2-19-44

The candidates are Bertha Edgecombe, Catherine Moreland, Mabel Brown and May Wilson, for the executive board; Mildred Peters for relief committee

Ballots will be cast next Thursday, Feb. 24, after an election rally at the Hotel Diplomat the night before. 2-19-44

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NMU Fights Jim Crow In Houston USS Hotel

Defender-Chicago, Ill
1-8-44

HOUSTON, Texas — Arthur J. Mandell, member of the United Seamen's Service port area committee, who protested a move to segregate Negro members of the National Maritime union in the recently opened USS Brazos hotel here, was commended by Joseph Curran, national president of the NMU for his stand against discrimination.

In answering a poll conducted by Robert Smith, committee chairman inquiring how Negro seamen would be accommodated in the hotel, Mandell advised Smith that "as an American citizen and as a freeman I cannot compromise on the question of whether or not American men and women should have equal opportunities and equal accommodations. Economic and political discrimination on account of race or creed is in line with the Nazi program."

Curran wrote Mandell a letter of appreciation in which he stated: "We cannot compromise with bigotry and prejudice and other reactionary positions which are akin to fascism. The position which you took with regard to discrimination in the USS port area committee was a correct and courageous one which is in keeping with the policies and constitution of the National Maritime Union." 1-8-44

Resolutions adopted by the Houston NMU local and sent to national headquarters and all ports for concurrence expressed the members' determination to keep fighting discrimination. The seamen insisted that the USS in all ports carry out the national policy of non-discrimination, and added that if any member of the port area refused to do so, he should be asked to resign.

NMU members, the resolution said point-blank, would not patronize the USS in Houston unless all were admitted on a free and equal basis. The segregation proposal in the Brazos hotel is still pending and has not been put into effect.

test that he sent to the National Maritime Commission against the choice of a representative of the Women's Auxiliary of the American Merchant Marine to launch the S.S. Sam Torch, because it implied approval of the objectives of the WAAMs.

"The WAAMS is an admittedly anti-Negro organization and confines itself to officers wives," Drury wired. 5-19-44

Drury also noted that the Women's Auxiliary of the NMU had applied for the naming of a merchant vessel after Patrick B. Whalen and the right to launch it, but has not yet received an answer.

Whalen was one of the first seamen to die in this war and one of the NMU's most prominent leaders.

Robeson at NMU Ceremony

Daily Worker
New York, N.Y.

BALTIMORE, May 18. — Paul Robeson will sing the new Soviet national anthem at the "Saute to Maritime Day" celebration on May 28, James Drury, port agent of the National Maritime Union, announced today.

The celebration is being staged by the NMU at the Fifth Regiment Armory. 5-19-44

Drury also made public the pro-

Railway Mail Union Cannot Bar Negroes

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga,
7-28-44

Court Decides Against White Association

NEW YORK—(SNS)—The New York State Court of Appeals ruled on Wednesday July 19 that the Railway Mail Association, a national organization of railway postal clerks, is a labor union and had violated New York State's civil rights laws in barring Negroes from membership. 7-28-44

The NAACP ,acting as amicus curiae, presented a brief January 5, 1944 in which it contended that the argument that the Railway Mail Association is a membership insurance corporation and not a labor was only a screen to attempt to evade the provisions of the Civil Rights Law.

The decision Wednesday up held a ruling of the Appelate Division of the Supreme Cout on March 8th, which had reversed Justice William H. Murray of the State Supreme Court in Troy, N. Y. Justice Murray's decision held that the "association was a fraternity beneficiary society." The Attorney General of the State of New York appealed from this ruling. 7-28-44

35k-1944

Textile Workers Union, CIO

Negro Workers For Entire Mill Proposed By Union

Times—Roanoke, Va.

6-3-44

DANVILLE, June 2 (AP).—The Textile Workers union, CIO, tonight repeated its proposal to the Riverside and Dan River Cotton Mills that an entire mill be staffed with Negro workers and pledged that the strike of spinners could end immediately with acceptance of the proposal.

The offer was first made last Friday. It has not been accepted by management, which claims there are not enough trained Negro textile workers to handle all jobs in a separate mill.

Conflicting claims regarding the number of spinning frames in operation at Riverside division were issued last night. The management stated 140 frames operated on the first shift, compared with 112 on Thursday, and about 200 on the second shift tonight, compared with 210 yesterday. Union spokesmen said reports from workers indicated only 70 frames operated during the first shift and 40 on the second.

Boyd E. Payton, regional director of the TWUA, came here from Lynchburg yesterday to assist in solving the work stoppage. He and Paul Robinson, Pittsylvania county joint board director, said tonight they were trying to arrange a conference with management for tomorrow at which they hoped progress would be made. 6-3-44

The strike, growing out of protests on the part of spinners against employment of Negroes as spinners and doffers in one of the Riverside mills, has thrown more than 2,000 other workers out of regular employment for lack of spun yarn.

35k-1944

The Shop Owner's Association

Beauty Shop Owners Organize For Their Mutual Protection

Amsterdam News – New York, N.Y.

10-14-44

300 Proprietors Formulate Well-Defined Program in Tune With New Trends

By JAMES CASEY

The Shop Owner's Association, an organization of approximately [illegible] uptown beauty shop proprietors, represents one phase of the swift [illegible]aying for position that swept through Harlem last Spring when [illegible] leaked out the first hints of the news that the Health Depart[illegible]nt was preparing to slap down a rigid ban against the subletting of [illegible]ths to independent operators.

[illegible] last April, when wind of the [illegible]lth Commissioner's plan was first [illegible]ng noised around Harlem, a group [illegible] alert business-minded shop own[illegible]rs met and decided to band togeth[illegible]r for mutual protection. When the [illegible]alth Department threw its con[illegible]ing directive squarely in the lap [illegible] Harlem beauticians, three months [illegible]ter, the recently-former Shop [illegible]wner's Association had already [illegible]thered its members into a closely-[illegible]knit organization, and had formula[illegible]ed a well defined program calcu[illegible]ated to take the new trend of events [illegible]n stride.

10-14-44

In an interview with the AM[illegible]STERDAM NEWS, last week, Mrs. [illegible]adeline McCoy, president of the [illegible]ssociation and a prominent Sugar[illegible]ill beautician, outlined the back[illegible]round and purposes of the organi[illegible]ation.

"We were all members of the [illegible]tate Beautician's Association," Mrs. [illegible]cCoy explained. "The SBA was [illegible]mposed of both shop owners and [illegible]dependent operators. Hints of the [illegible]roposed ruling, which reached us [illegible]rly last Spring, created two [illegible]harply divided sets of sharply-di[illegible]ded opinions between owners and [illegible]perators within the organization. [illegible]he owners, feeling that their in[illegible]rests could be best served by a sep[illegible]ate body, decided to form the Shop [illegible]wner's Association — retaining, [illegible]owever, their membership in the [illegible]rent group."

10-14-44

Mrs. McCoy, proprietor of Made[illegible]e's Beauty Shop at 850 St. Nich[illegible]as Ave., was elected president of [illegible]e new organization. Jimmie [illegible]oung, owner of Jimmie's Beauty [illegible]hop at Seventh and 143rd Street, [illegible]as made vice-president.

The real purpose of the organiza[illegible]on, Mrs. McCoy said, can be gath[illegible]ed from a series of five proposals [illegible]hich were adopted during a recent [illegible]eeting. The proposals are:

(1) Beauty shop management [illegible]ust be held accountable for the [illegible]aintenance of sanitary conditions [illegible] all shops; (2) Unity must be es[illegible]tablished between owner and operator; (3) The payment of social security, unemployment insurance and workmen's compensation mus[illegible] be strictly enforced; (4) Shop owners must unite in insisting that al[illegible] shops are fully equipped with adequate health and safety devices, and proper business practices must be observed; and (5) Operators should organize themselves into a strong organization, so that their income can be guaranteed and protected.

Mrs. McCoy revealed that she had personally consulted with officials downtown, and had been informed that the Health Department directive was a law and was actually in effect. "We received that information about August 15," she asserted, "and that's when we began to discontinue booth renting."

Commenting on the current confusion and ill-will which has developed in the ranks of Harlem beauticians, she stated that the aim of her organization was "simply to abide by the law, and to try to regulate the industry for the benefit of all concerned."

10-14-44

"The shop owners have no fight," she said. "We are just trying to conduct ourselves as business people. We feel that if the operators were organized into a union, everyone would be protected."

35k-1944

Transport Workers Union

—Election Scene

Phila. TWU--A Lesson In Negro-White Unity

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

The firm action of the Philadelphia Transport Workers Union in upholding a War Manpower Commission order banning discrimination in the hiring and upgrading of workers by the Philadelphia Transportation Co. reflects a significant development in American life, the coalition of labor and the Negro people. 7-20-44

The fight against discrimination on PTC lines has been a long one. Backed by a company union, the company refused some months ago to carry out a directive of the President's Fair Employment Practice Commission ordering an end to discrimination in upgrading Negro workers. The company union threatened strike action if Negroes were promoted and made this the main issue in a collective bargaining election held recently. The Transport Workers Union, opposing discrimination, won.

Following the election, the company gave up its fight against discrimination, using new War Manpower regulations as the reason. The company union, though defeated, still threatened strike.

Under those conditions the TWU executive board voted, on Monday, to support the WMC order. The vote was 119 to 1. In addition, TWU leaders announced they had urged an anti-discrimination clause in the union contract but the company had refused. 7-20-44

Company unions and reactionary AFL leaders have frequently been used as employer "stooges" in opposing the introduction or promotion of Negro employes, though it is also true that the attitudes of workers have often been affected by jimcrow influences operating outside the labor movement.

FIRM STAND WINS

The action of the TWU demonstrates, however, that when a firm stand is taken by union leaders, such attitudes can be overcome. Unions of the CIO and of progressive sections of the AFL have in recent years built up a substantial record of success in fighting for Negro rights, in collaboration frequently with Negro organizations and indiviulads.

The effect of this has been for Negro organization and leaders to look to the CIO and to progressive AFL labor for assistance and even leadership in the fight for Negro rights. And since large numbers of workers, organized and unorganized, are Negroes, labor has also looked to Negro leaders for aid and cooperation. 7-26-44

This coalition has powerful political consequences. Both labor and the Negro people have, by and large, supported President Roosevelt and his policies. The Negro people this year despite dissatisfaction and army jimcrow and other justified grievances and not withstanding concentrated GOP demagogy, realize unity with labor is important politically. They also recognize they need a strong labor movement in the fight for Negro rights. The unwavering support labor is giving to FDR and to pro-Roosevelt candidates locally, should therefore, strengthen the campaign for the President among the Negro people.

Philly Transit Stands Pat On Banning Of Race

Daily Worker — Atlanta, Ga.

Union Insists On Abandoning Race Barriers

7-27-44

PHILADELPHIA—(A N P)—The Philadelphia Transportation company, which not only signed a contract with its company union—the PRT Employees union—prohibiting the hiring of colored men and women as motormen, conductors, bus drivers and cashiers, but also used that clause in the contract as the only reason why colored people were not so hired, has refused to sign a contract with the new bargaining agent, Local No 234 Transport Workers union, CIO unless such a clause is inserted in the new contract.

This information was given last week by a spokesman for James J. Fitzsimons, president of the TWU Local. "We offered a non-discrimination clause in the new contract," the spokesman said, "but the company resisted it."

WORKERS GIVE SUPPORT

At the same time, the spokesman said that at a meeting of all carbarns and departments of the TWU, held on Sunday evening at the Broadwood hotel, the members of the joint executive committee voted 119 to 1 to give their full support to the government order against discrimination in hiring by PTC. 7-27-44

It was pointed out to the spokesman for the TWU Local that women now constitute the largest available source of man power and he was asked what the TWU local planned to do about the employment of colored women. "That matter was not discussed by the joint executive committee on Sunday," he answered.

Meanwhile, reliable sources had reported that posters have appeared in several car barns calling upon white workers to go on strike rather than help train colored men to operate trolleys.

ACTION OF HOT HEADS

"The vote of the full joint executive committee shows that these notices do not represent the majority sentiment of PTC workers, but are the handiwork of a few hotheads," the spokesman said.

The resolution, which was adopted at the Broadwood hotel meeting, reads as follows: 7-27-44

"Whereas the War Manpower Commission of the United States government has issued an order declaring that employes of the Philadelphia Transportation company be hired without discrimination, be it hereby resolved that the joint executive committee of Local 234, Transport Workers union, on this day and date go on record in support of the government of the United States in the interest of the war effort." 34

TWU Hails FDR Action, Pledges Phila. Cleanup

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

8-7-44

By WALTER LOWENFELS

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 6.—Leaders of the Transport Workers Union today thanked President Roosevelt for his swift action in ordering the Army out to suppress the Philadelphia transit conspiracy.

Meeting in the Broadwood Hotel, 400 CIO shop stewards, executive board members, and leading representatives of the 8,600 transit workers, repeated charges of company complicity in the plot made Saturday by their President, Michael Quill.

Unanimously pledged full support to the President and the Department of Justice investigation. And they asked that the investigation begin with the role of the PTC management in the conspiracy.

[The text of the TWU pledge to the President appears on the back page.] 8-7-44

President Quill, who received an ovation, told the aurience:

"We have the ball in our hands. We will keep it till fascism is destroyed. Next week Dr. Mitten will sign the contract we negotiated.

"A house cleansing is coming in Philadelphia next week when the Grand Jury meets. The cockroaches must be cleaned out. First, Orville Bullitt. He should not be permitted at large while the war is on. He attempted to do the dirty work of the fascists through his government agency.

"The Philadelphia police are next. The bums who guzzled the strikers should have their uniforms removed.

"Mayor Samuels should be brought to account for his lack of action. 8-7-44

"The four fascist dupes should be next. The company is responsible for the strike. They must pay for the week's wages lost by the loyal workers, all the transport workers have the job of convincing the country that they did not stab our fighting country in the back."

The Transport Workers Union is for equality. They will defend the Negroes' right to work, and protect the seniority of both Negro and white, Quill pledged.

"We will prove to the people of America that the United States government and the labor movement are one for victory," he said.

James Fitzsimon, international vice-president said: "This was a fascist revolt against the government of the United States. The strike leaders were the spearhad, the company was behind them.

"Orville Bullitt, regional head of the War Labor Board, set out to smash the TWU. We got calls from Bullitt. He wanted us to compromise our collective bargaining rights. He is the only head of a war agency who not only saw the so-called strike committee. He met with them and gave them advice and help." 8-7-44

Ferdinand Myers, international vice-president, NMU: "The soldiers who are in Philadelphia are not here as strike breakers. This is a peoples army to stop the insurrection, the inspiration for the plot comes from people like John L. Lewis, and his District 50, and the Pew family. These groups are anti-Negro, anti-white, anti-Catholic, anti-Protestant, anti-Jewish—it just depends with whom they are talking."

Douglas MacMahon, secretary-treasurer, TWU: "Mr. Mitten and the Mitten management deliberately started this conspiracy and executed it through their stooges. We demand they be put behind bars and kept there."

By DOROTHY LOEB

When War Labor Board chairman William H. Davis told the nation that the CIO Transport Workers Union officials "from the outset have taken a vigorous stand against" Philadelphia's shocking anti-Negro whose officers worked night and day transport strike, he was in effect to end the stoppage and to expose paying a compliment to the entire and prosecute the disruptors responsible, was actually only applying long-established CIO policy.

That is true because the TWU,

TWU Anti-Bias Struggle Follows Basic CIO Policy

Daily Worker — New York, N.Y.

a policy that strikers had good reason to know about when they selected the union as their bargaining agent last February in a National Labor Relations Board election. 8-5-44

From the time the CIO was formed back in 1935, it was dedicated not only to the principles of industrial organization, but to a positive struggle for Negro rights within the unions, on the jobs and in the community.

Its growth gave the United States for the first time a labor movement that was not content to pass resolutions demanding equality from one convention to the next, but instead acted upon those resolutions militantly between sessions.

From its inception, the CIO has viewed Negro questions as problems requiring special attention, through designated committees, organizers, literature and leadership on such issues as segregation, housing, equal opportunity to jobs and promotion, which includes upgrading, the very issue on which Philadelphia workers were led to paralyze the entire transportation system of their city. 8-5-44

GROWTH IN UNIONS

The consequence of this policy has been a vast increase in unionization among Negroes. The CIO United Auto Workers alone is estimated to have 70,000 in its ranks. Tens of thousands of others are in steel, electrical, machine, smelting, packing, fur, leather, laundry, aluminum, textile and other unions.

Many of them hold leading union posts. Ferdinand Smith, a Negro, is national secretary of the National Maritime Union. The International Fur & Leather Workers has a Negro national vice-president. The United Packinghouse Workers also has a national vice-president who is a Negro. CIO Shipbuilders have a Negro on their executive board and he is the president of a large local which counts only a handful of Negroes in its membership 8-5-44

NEGRO ON CIO BOARD

A new landmark in the fight for equal rights for Negro workers was established by the last CIO convention at Philadelphia, the very city where this latest outrage against democratic principles occurred. There, in November, 1943, the NMU nominated its Ferdinand Smith to be its representative on the CIO international executive board, and he was unanimously elected. It was the first time that a union, predominantly white but including Negroes, had named a Negro to its top councils.

CIO recent history is filled with victories against prejudice. When disruptors from John L. Lewis' District 50 sought to provoke a similar outbreak in the Wright plant in Lockland, O., the CIO United Auto Workers sent its secretary-treasurer, George Addes, to compel an end to the stoppage and acceptance of the Negro workers.

Similarly in Mobile, Ala., the national office of the CIO Marine & Shipbuilding Workers stepped in with a firm hand to enforce democratic principles. 8-5-44

Not only on the job, but in the fight against the polltax, in the handling of cases before the President's Fair Employment Practices Committee, in the handling of outbreaks such as New York City experienced in Harlem in August last year, the CIO has demonstrated in practice that its resolutions against Jimcrow have a firm foundation that will not yield or break, despite pressure from those who cling to prejudice either through misunderstanding or under the direction of direct agents of the enemy.

35k-1944 United Steelworkers of America, CIO

Steel Union Reports Negro Members Rose By 100% Since 1940

Daily Worker-New York, N.Y.
5-10-44

CLEVELAND, May 9.—Contracts with 985 steel companies, a total of 70,000 Negro members, double that in 1940, and of 80,000 women members, four times the 1940 figure, and a total of 200,000 members in the armed forces are some of the vital statistics of the United Steelworkers of America, CIO, in the officers' report submitted by Philip Murray, president, to the union's second constitutional convention being held at the Public Auditorium Music Hall here.

The report stressed all-out production for victory. Among objectives cited is a guaranteed annual wage. The no-strike pledge was reiterated.

The convention, attended by 2,300 delegates representing 936,000 members, heard Murray's call for "political strength to match our economic strength."

The report points out that the union international has bought over $1,125,000 in war bonds.

The last main hold-out against a contract, it is stated, is Weirton, where "a vigorous campaign is being waged.

Women are now working in basic mills, it is emphasized. There are 32 women presidents of steel locals and 446 other women officers.

The position of Negro workers, says the report, is constantly improving.

5-10-44

The union plan for the GI Joes includes support of the GI bill, exemption of members in armed services from dues, guarantees in contracts that seniority continues and yearly vacation payment to men in armed services.

MUSTERING OUT FUND

To establish a fund for steelworkers upon mustering out, the unions proposes that each member pay $20 out of any increases directed by the NLRB, and that the employer meet this with an equal sum, the money to be administered by a joint committee.

On political action, the report states:

"Labor has recognized that the attack by the enemies of the welfare of our nation must be defeated if we are to protect labor in the difficult period of transition from war to peace.

". . . The Political Action Committee has been organized as a permanent arm of the CIO.".

WAGE STABILIZATION

On stabilization, the report, signed by Murray, David J. McDonald, secretary-treasurer; Van A. Bittner, assistant to the president; and Clinton S. Golden, assistant to the president, pledges, "This union has and will continue to fight profiteering (and) . . . inflation. It has fought for congressional subsidies to protect wage-earners against skyrocketing of prices. It has fought for national wage stabilization, for impartial administration of the law of Oct. 2, 1942, and a complete restoration of the relationship between prices and wages as of Sept. 15, 1942."

5-10-44

Murray pointed out that "since the first of the year there has been idle steel capacity due to lack of orders. In January the steel industry fell 341,268 ingot tons below capacity; in February, 229,972 tons and 126,906 tons in March 1944."

35k-1944

UAW

Negro UAW Leader Bares Race Hatred Provocations

Daily Worker. New York, N.Y.
3-16-44

DEARBORN, Mich., March 15 (FP).—Direct provocation to strike and attempted fomenting of race hatred among employes is charged to the Ford Motor Co. labor relations department by Recording Secretary Shelton Tappes of Ford Local 630, United Auto Workers, CIO.

Tappes made his statement in comment on documentary evidence that Ford was plotting to bring about strikes.

"We have known all along that the Ford Motor Co. labor relations department was trying to bring about stoppages in various departments," Tappes told Federated Press "We did not need documents to convince us because we had the day to day evidence in the vorious buildings.

"We know also that the company people have been trying to stir up race friction among the Ford workers. On the whole they have not succeeded, except among a few of the newer employes and there the union stepped in to stop it."

Tappes, a Negro union member who took a leading part in organizing the Ford Rouge plant in 1940 and '41, is probably the most popular official of Local 600, having been the only one to be regularly elected and reelected to office without a runoff.

GIVES REAL FACTS

Ten Ford workers were fired from the job March 9 for taking part in a commotion that upset the equanimity of a labor relations office, without objections so far as known on the part of the union to this discipline. Ten others were suspended from the job, but if it can be shown that the company provoked the disturbance the union may take a different position on the discharges and suspensions.

Three damage suits brought against Ford Local 600 by members who were suspended for a time for participating in racial friction have been entirely misrepresented in the daily press, according to W. G. Grant, newly elected local president.

"The papers made it appear," says Grant, "that these men were disciplined by the union because they tried to stop racial agitation but the facts are the exact opposite. There was some feeling by newly employed white girls in the department against a couple of colored girls who had been hired even more recently. The Negro girls were boycotted in the cafeteria and had to eat by themselves. 3-16-44

"When a white girl went over and sat with them, on a friendly union basis, some other white girls got up a petition to have this white girl fired. The three men who were disciplined carried the petition to management and the girl actually was let out. The union membership immediately corrected this in the department and was upheld by the building meeting, the Ford Local council and the international convention. So I don't see any basis for the damage suits, as the men clearly went against UAW - CIO policy, which does not permit any racial discrimination."

35k-1944

United Transport Service Employes of America

Negroes Denied Union Choice

Constitution-Atlanta, Ga.
1-11-44

WASHINGTON, Jan. 10.—(AP)—The supreme court refused today to reconsider a decision which was challenged on the ground that it deprived Negroes of the right to select their own representatives for collective bargaining.

The vote was 8-1, with Justice Rutledge being "of opinion that petition should be granted, the case restored to the docket and set for argument."

"If this interpretation of the railway labor act prevails," the tribunal was told, "the plight of the Negro in the interstate railway labor field is hopeless."

Reconsideration was sought of the court's December 6 decision reversing a ruling by the United States court of appeals for the District of Columbia that 45 porters of the St. Paul (Minn.) Union Depot Company, who were excluded from one labor organization because they were Negroes, had a right to select another union to represent them.

This action left in effect a decision by the National Mediation Board that the porters were not a craft or class of employes and could not select their own representatives.

The Brotherhood of Railway and Steamship Clerks, which denies Negroes full membership, claims that a collective bargaining contract it entered into in 1921 included the porters.

1-11-44

The United Transport Service Employes of America, which filed the petition for reconsideration, contends the Negroes have a right to select this organization to represent them and had unanimously voted to do so.

The supreme court acted December 6 without a written opinion, marely announcing that the court of appeals decision was reversed.

35k-1944

Workers Defense League

Fla. Sheriff Jails Labor Investigator In Negro Community

FT. LAUDERDALE, Fla. — A Workers Defense League representative was arrested and fined $25 in municipal court in this city, on a charge of "vagrancy," and later held 24 hours in jail for investigation by Chief Deputy Sheriff Robert H. Clark of Broward County, Florida, last week during a WDL probe of alleged violation of workers rights in Broward County.

Ft. Lauderdale police arrested the WDL representtaive in the Negro residential district of the city while he was interviewing Negroes who had previously been arrested on vagrancy charges by Sheriff Clark and fined without trial for refusing to pick beans.

The WDL investigation is continuing and is throwing new light on this Southern practice of enforcing labor. The WDL plans to take appropriate action against this procedure when its investigation is

Many Negroes Top Rankers in Union:

New Members Take Over Leadership in Local 65

The People's Voice 1-15-44

By YVONNE GREGORY

All organizations have lost great numbers of their members to the armed services and to heavy industry as the war needs of America widened and intensified. No exception is Local 65, Wholesale and Warehouse Workers Union, CIO. Latest figures available at the union's headquarters, 13 Astor Place, show that there are now 7,000 Local 65-ers in the armed forces; 5,000 in heavy industry. Prior to Pearl Harbor, 65 was one of New York's larger locals, with rank and filers totalling 17,000.

Drained from its ranks were workers longest employed in the industry, most thoroughly integrated into union life, and most aware of how union membership can benefit an individual. New 65-ers, recruited since America entered the war, are people who either never worked before or who haven't worked in a long time. These are women, old people, very young people and members of certain minority groups. Spokesmen at 65 headquarters emphasized the fact, that though the union now claimed large numbers of Negroes, for instance, among its membership, there had always been Negroes in the union since its organization. This is true, too, of women. Whereas, before the war, women comprised only 5 to 10 per cent of total membership—today their numbers range close to 60 per cent.

NEW MEMBERSHIP

Jack Paley, editor of Local 65's bi-monthly paper, **New Voices**—said these new workers constituted an altogether new type of membership, and that they were the **backbone** of the union's structure for the future. Here's how he explained it: 1-15-44

● Although minimum wage standards throughout the industry have been raised by the union to 25-30 dollar levels, former members who entered heavy industry's higher paying jobs will scarcely return to such a wage bracket unless forced to do so by a seriously disrupted national economy.

● Local 65-ers now in the armed forces may be killed in action, wounded and disabled for future work in warehousing, or, having had the opportunity to learn new trades in the services, will scarcely want to return to comparatively unskilled work.

EDUCATION IMPORTANT

That leaves responsibility for maintaining the union and furthering its advancement squarely on the shoulders of its present membership. Education is an important factor in developing leadership among this new body. The "poison press" has done a thorough job that must now be undone by the union. Newer members distrust the union, having been told for many years that all unions are "rackets." Others pay dues and never attend meetings, thereby losing benefit of all educational features. 1-15-44

Because Negroes form a large mass of this new membership, they must accept the responsibil-

ity that goes along with belonging to a good democraic union that has consistently fought for the rights of workers. Local 65 is such an organization. Since it started, this union has maintained a consistently clear and open record. 1-15-44

Any member, any interested visitor, is free to visit its business offices in Tom Mooney Hall and see for himself the graphs and charts on the walls. Here are day by day records of dues collected, membership attendance at meetings, contributions to relief funds and other business transactions carried on by the local.

TRIPLE STRUCTURE

Further confidence in the union and understanding of its aims can be gained by regular attendance at meetings. It is to this end that a triple structure has been set up by 65 leadership. Because it has grown increasingly difficult for members to maintain consistent attendance at gatherings held in Tom Mooney Hall, a new plan was conceived that would carry union activities to members. Divided into three parts, the new system works this way:

Members meet in **sections, industrial divisions** and in their **communities.** Sections cover a given area in which Local 65-ers are employed, regardless of the commodity they handle; industrial divisions take care of workers in one **industry** such as textiles, shoes, etc., and community meetings are held on a semi-social basis near **homes** of a given number of workers.

NEGROES IN LEADERSHIP

Of the newer membership, about 2500 are Negroes, and 1100 of that number live in Harlem. They are represented in union leadership, and several hold paid positions on its working staff. Two Negroes write regularly for **New Voices.** Positions held include shop stewardships, industrial board memberships, and community captainships. Paid staff mem-

Leadership in Local 65 is young, militant, and clearheaded. Every phase of its activity now is geared toward one end—winning the war. It purchased its own building last September, called it Tom Mooney Hall, and is gradually making it a center for trade union meetings in New York. Such an organization, because of its past and present, has a firm bright future towards which to look and to work. Membership in Local 65 would seem to be a privilege, a responsibility, and an educational opportunity.

35L-1944

ANSWERING MR. BABSON

To the Editor of The News-Age-Herald:

I have read and reread the article in Sunday's paper which was written by Roger W. Babson in his advice to Negroes against wasting money and I wish to challenge him in some of his statements which I think were too general, as generalization is usually unfair. He has written from his personal viewpoint, and the contacts that he has had with some Negroes are a medium by which he cannot judge all Negroes.

Those Negroes who are wasting money today and not making reservations for the inevitable depression that is to come after the war are those same Negroes who wasted whatever earnings they have always received. Never doubt for one moment that the clear-thinking, sober-minded Negro is giving thought for tomorrow as well as he has taken thought in the past. Negroes are conservatives, have been, and always will be. Most of them have not waited upon the present government or present conditions to make them such, but because they have been born, reared and held under economic bases that have taught them to be conservatives. I, too, have lived among Negroes more than 20 years and have very keenly observed their wastefulness in time of scarcity as well as plenty, and I presume that these were in the same category of which Mr. Babson speaks.

From early womanhood until today my experience and observation of 23 years around mining camps among poorer whites and Negroes have been deplorable. Many Negroes are proud of the opportunity to get their hands on a few more dollars than usual, where as they might now secure some of the necessities that are vital to man's existence and comfort. There are many Negroes who are doing things leading towards future security, but these Mr. Babson did not reach. There are those of us who would build homes if building materials were available. There are also among us individuals who do not like cheap furs, cheap jewelry, cocktail parties, night clubs or any other means by which our incomes might be wasted, and were Mr. Babson thoroughly acquainted with the Negroes who represent the "Negro race," I daresay he would limit his statement to some Negroes and not most of them.

As for being lazy, the Negro has almost been driven to indolence. Repeating his story about the progress of James, remember, that there are any number of Jameses and if you doubt this, expose your vocational programs to Negro youth and note their abilities plus their willingness to serve in any capacity.

May I earnestly state that no one need be responsible for the future security of some of us, if we are given a fair and equal opportunity to live and labor as men and women who are eager to shoulder their own burdens and responsibilities.

IRMA GORDON TOLBERT,
Principal, Jefferson County School.

The Inquiring Reporter

Journal & Guide Norfolk, Va.
2-5-44

By J. ANDREW BOWLER

THE QUESTION

The impression of the public is that longshoremen receive fabulous earnings. Is this true or false?

THE ANSWERS

(By Norfolk Union Longshoremen)

THOMAS H. JONES, 612 Landing street: "People who have that impression are all wrong and have doubtless been misled. It is true that longshoremen are well paid for their work. In my local the lowest paid per hour rate for day work is 64 cents, for night work 96 cents per hour, with time and a half for over time. A longshoreman does not work every day (or night) in the week, sometimes he only works two or three shifts a week, and often he works a total of only two weeks in a month. When it is all summed up, a longshoreman does not receive anymore in the course of a year than other laborers."

R. E. JOHNSON, 834 Goff street: "If a longshoreman could work every day or night in the week for a period of time he would pull down some real "dough" but there are none that I know of who do that. Most all of us work only a few days a week, and once in a great while we will get a whole week's work in. So far this week I have only worked one day and the week is almost gone. We are paid good wages for an hour's work but, believe me, we earn it and I know if a man worked every day or night for two weeks straight he would have to pay the best part of his earnings for doctors' bills, for very few men can stand up under it."

R. B. SMITH, 1045 Rowland avenue: "There are times when a longshoreman receives some mighty fat checks for his work, but that is not very often. It just happens that he is with a gang that has a lot of work on hand for the time. The majority of times he suffers and wonders where the money will come from for the things he and his family needs. Take me for instance; I have worked only six hours this week and the little I will draw next week for this weeks work will not go very far."

WALTER C. JEFFRIES, 811 Cole street: "I think we longshoremen are the most overrated workers in the world. I guess everybody thinks like I thought before I signed up to this type of work, but I know better now. I thought if I worked as a longshoremen I would get rich in a short time but I am no better off than when I started. I know of several kinds of laborers who realize more in a year than we do because we don't work everyday. I have put in only two nights this week."

JAMES TAYLOR, 719 Scott street, Portsmouth: "People make me sore with their notions that I make a lot of money because I am a longshoreman. I have a family to support and it is as much as I can do to make ends meet with what I receive for my work. This week I drew $26 for last week's work and next week I guess I will receive much less for I have worked only one day this week so far, even though I have reported for duty each and every day."

C. LOWE, 1236 Roscoe street: "Most people have the wrong idea about how much money we receive for our work. There have been many weeks when I have reported for duty each day but only received pay for a few hour's work. Take this week for instance, this is Friday and I have worked only one day. For that day's work I will receive $13, less deductions, and the chances are I will not have the opportunity to work another day during the remainder of this week. Now I ask you, do you think $13 a week is a fabulous sum?"

Wrangle Ends

Reynolds Signs CIO Contract

Courier—Pittsburgh, Pa.
4-22-44

WINSTON-SALEM, N. C. —R. J. Reynolds Tobacco Co. has signed a contract with a CIO union, ending a long wrangle between company officials and the 12,000 colored and white employees who make Camel cigarettes.

Union officials said efforts to get a signed contract date back to the first World War.

Actual foundation for successful unionism was laid when the United Cannery, Agricultural, Packing and Allied Workers of America, CIO, established the Tobacco Workers' Organizing committee here almost three years ago.

CIO POLLS 6,822 VOTES

After a long wrangle, which saw the issue carried to court, the final election was held in December, 1943, with the CIO getting 6,822 votes and the company union polling 3,116. In an earlier election the AFL polled only 135 votes.

Besides seniority and grievance procedure—including arbiaration as a finel step—the contract guarantees the rights of servicemen and merchant sailors, including two weeks' severance pay and vacation pay; provides bulletin boards, leaves for union work, call-in pay of two hours, and the right of private physicians to check on company doctors' say-so on health matters.

TO WAR LABOR BOARD

Issues which go to the War Labor Board for decision are wage increases, improvement of the vacation plan, maintenance of membership and check-off and top seniority for shop stewards.

The contract is the first CIO contract in the cigarette industry.

Women Employees Up Graded At Navy Yard

Baltimore Afro
Hartford, Conn. 3-18-44

BOSTON — (ANP) — Last week at the Charlestown navy yard in Boston several colored women were upgraded to responsible jobs. Among them were Misses M. Leonissa Powell and Mary Rose Perry who were promoted to third class mechanics. Miss Charlotte Simmons and Miss Mabel Jeffries were advanced to third class copper smiths.

Dixie Wages on 125th Street

The Peoples Voice New York, N.Y.

HARLEM SHOPPERS should refuse to cross the picket line in front of the S. H. Kress and Company 5-10-25 cent store on 125th street so long as the management continues its gross wage discrimination against Negro employees.

11-25-44

Negro sales clerks in the 125th street Kress store are paid $16 and $18 for a 48-hour week, whereas white girls doing the same work in downtown Kress stores are paid $22, $27 and $33 for a 44-hour week. In protest against this Negro-white wage differential, the Harlem Labor Union has had a picket line in front of the store every day for almost six months. But Kress and Co. still refuse to bring their wage scale for Negro workers into line with what is paid white workers.

We have met this practice before—chiefly in the deep south, wehre lower wages for Negro workers are generally taken as a matter of course. But we want none of this Dixie wage policy in Harlem.

11-25-44

Negro Girls Quit In Pay Dispute

11-17-44

According to current reports "when a group of Negro girl employes of the Williams Shade and Awning factory, 807 Dodon Avenue, asked Mr. Russell Williams for a raise in pay, he replied that he would close up his shop first."

The girls had worked on an average of seven years with the company. One had worked there for the past fourteen years.

All the girls were paid $18 for a 48-hour week, whereas white girls doing the same work in downtown stores are paid $22, $27 and $33 for a 44-hour week. In protest against this Negro-white wage differential, the Harlem Labor Union has had a picket line in front of the store every day for almost six months. But Kress and Co. still refuse to bring their wage scale for Negro workers into line with what is paid white workers.

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striking observations, which cannot be dismissed. Mr. Mezerik is sufficiently provocative to deserve the attention of all persons who have at heart the future of this city and section. 11-26-44

* * *

Take the matter of a differential in wages. Mr. Mezerik had taken it for granted that the cost of living in the South is considerably lower than it is elsewhere, and that a differential is therefore justified. But he writes that he found the manufacturers have altered their views on living costs. He says that they have made an investigation, "a copy of which was given me by an official of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company. . . . Flatly the report states that it costs more to live in Alabama than it does in the North. . . . Practically every essential food is imported from outside; therefore it costs more. Clothing, even work clothes, is not manufactured in Alabama; therefore, clothing, too, costs more. Shelter is the only item that costs less in Alabama than it does in the North."

Mr. Mezerik continues: "The Alabama industrialists add all this up to mean that, on any comparable basis, the cost of living in Alabama is greater than it is in Ohio, Michigan or Pennsylvania. Yet for the year in which these revelations were made, an Alabama worker's income averaged $758 as against the $1,500 which the Northern worker earned. The Alabaman managed to get by only because he ate less, wore poorer clothes for a longer time and lived in a hovel. Birmingham uses 33 per cent less butter and 146 per cent more oleo than does the average American city. It trims all its food requirements. People eat less and what they do eat is of poorer quality. Alabama workers wear clothes much longer than do Northerners. Decent housing is far out of reach of the average worker."

* * *

This journalist is speaking through the medium of a magazine of some weight. What is to be said in reply or comment? Frankly, this paper would like to know more about the report on which Mr. Mezerik relies. If it actually disposes of the cost-of-living issue as he indicates, all of us will have to revise our thinking.

This paper is by no means prepared to accept Mr. Mezerik's picture of our situation, but it is naturally disturbed by it. Has he given us a definitive statement of the facts?

351-1944

This Babson Column Is For Colored Folk

Charlotte, N. C., Observer
March 17, 1944

Economist Warns Negroes to Quit Spending High Wartime Wages Foolishly and Urges Them to Save Against the Inevitable Postwar Unemployment Period.

BY ROGER W. BABSON.

BABSON PARK, Fla., March 17.—I am writing to the several million of colored people in this country. Moreover I do so as a friend—one who has contributed money and time to help them.

The way you are foolishly spending money today is a shame and a disgrace. Not only are most of you now wasting money, but you are almost convincing your friends that you are unworthy to have good wages. You are showing an utter disregard of any knowledge of finances or economics.

Present high wages cannot continue. Many of you will be out of employment after the war. Millions of war workers will be discharged and—although it will be unjust—you will be discharged first. Therefore, you should save up money now to help you in these hard days ahead. Most white workers are now doing this.

WHY SO LAZY?

Some of you foolishly refuse to work if you have a little cash in your pockets. This applies to great strong men and women as well as to your young people. Too many of you seem to have no regard for the needs of the country in this crucial hour. You are citizens as well as the white workers. You claim you are not treated right. I do not agree to this; but if it is true, it is because so many of you are lazy and wasteful.

I am writing this in the South where I have worked with colored people for 20 winters. I have fought for you and got you out of jail when the sheriff unjustly arrested you. I know your good points and weak points; but I never before saw you in the lazy, wasteful and saucy moods that some of you put on today. From letters which I get, I fear you are behaving worse in the North than you are here in the South.

Many of you say, "Aunt Eleanor will take care of me after the war." Perhaps Aunt Eleanor will not be the President's wife after the war! President Roosevelt may not be re-elected. Besides, even Mrs. Roosevelt is getting out of patience with you. She is beginning to wonder if she may not have made a mistake in praising you as she did. It is true that white workers strike when they shouldn't, but they are not lazy nor do they throw away money.

Does it ever occur to you what would happen to our country if all the people—white and colored—acted as so many of you colored people act? We all, including you, would be slaves of the Germans or Japanese. Your attitude simply does not make sense from any point of view. Therefore, as a friend, I beg of you all to get all the work you can get; work as faithfully as you can; and save, save, save!

A TRUE STORY.

Let me prove that colored boys have just as good an opportunity to succeed as white boys. A few years ago Webber college at Babson Park, Florida, employed colored boys in the kitchen. Among them was one named James Paul Goss. The dean noticed that whereas all the others went to the movies or shot craps in the evening James practiced for hours learning typing. When the summer vacation came, he begged me to take him North and get him a job in an office. This I did. It was James' first opportunity.

James did so well that I brought him back to Florida in the fall. That winter he typed all my newspaper columns. In March, 1942, he was drafted. One day an officer asked if anyone of the men could type. James held up his hand. Then he was given his second opportunity. He has not held a gun since that day. He gradually worked into administrative duties. He became a corporal, a sergeant, a second, and then a first, lieutenant. He now is a captain with savings of $5,000 in bank and life insurance values. When one of his colored friends was asked why James got on so well he replied: "Well, you know, James does not drink or smoke; he works and saves and reads his Bible every day."

SOUND ADVICE

MUCH SOUND advice to the colored people of America is contained in a recent article by Roger W. Babson, famed economist, whose writings are so widely circulated that this particular message will doubtless reach a great number of his colored friends.

He speaks as one who has long been a friend of Negroes, who has worked with them and contributed time and money to help them, according to his own statement. Babson emphasizes the fact that most of the colored people who are now enjoying a scale of wages such as they have never before known are not only foolishly squandering their money, without a thought of the future, but are in numberless instances refusing to work when they have money in their pockets. Not only this, but many of them are becoming more insolent and independent with this step-up in their financial status.

"Does it ever occur to you," he asks, "what would happen to our country if all the people—white and colored—acted as so many of your colored people act? We would lose the war and we all, including you, would be slaves of the Germans and the Japanese. Therefore, as a friend, I beg of you all to get all the work you can get; work as faithfully as you can; and save, save, save."

Citing the fact that this condition appears to be much worse in the north than the south, and the oft-quoted expression from colored people that Aunt Eleanor will take care of them after the war, Babson points out that Aunt Eleanor might not be the President's wife after the war.

Looking back over the history of colored people in this country, *The Eagle* cannot recall a single one who attained a position of high trust by wastefulness, insolence and laziness. That applies with equal force to the whites. It just isn't done that way. Real usefulness, real respect from your fellow man, is attained only through service, thrift, sincere effort, and courtesy, whether a person's color be white, black, red or brown. Our colored friends would do well to remember that.

Atlantans Question Motives Behind Babson's Free Advice

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
3-23-44

Dr. Ira De A. Reid and John Hope II Say He Smeared Race

EDITOR'S NOTE—Here- with two prominent Atlantans, Dr. Ira De A. Reid, professor of sociology, Atlanta University and John Hope II, examiner for the regional FEPC, while agreeing with Roger W. Babson, whose advice to Negro workers to save was syndicated over the country last week, take pointed exception to the motives which were behind the business expert's admonition. The position of the Atlanta Daily World on this vital question may be found on the editorial page.

MR. BABSON'S FREE ADVICE BY IRA D. REID

Mr. Roger W. Babson of Babson Park, Florida, and Wellesley Hills Massachusetts is a philanthropist. He has just given 13,000,000 Negroes the largest single gift ever to come from a white philanthropist. The gift totals the staggering sum of one billion, five hundred and sixty million dollars. As a philanthropist, Mr. Babson is no piker. All one has to do to get a piece of Mr. Babson's gift is to read his syndicated column for March 18, which may be reprinted in every Negro paper in the country. He advises Negroes on what they should do to fortify themselves against the insecurities that are certain to follow the war.

STATISTICAL STAR-GAZER

You should know Mr. Babson. He is a statistical star-gazer of no mean standing. He was the investment adviser who back in September, 1929 predicted that the stock market was going to drop from 60 to 80 points. It dropped more than that. Only a few people heeded his direprediction. Mr. Babson is the man who in 1933 at a National Business Conference in his Florida winter home predicted "I forecast fascism today for the United States." Mr. Babson, a short while later, wrote in his book New Dilemma that he favored fascism. He called it a "drug to relieve the pain temporarily and keep the patient from committing suicide when he was out of his head." Mr. Babson operates and controls Babson's Reports, Incorporated, an investment advisory house in Massachusetts which tells you how to invest your money in order that you will not get "stung by the same bee twice when a preventive is available." For this service the company charges $120 a year. One hundred and twenty dollars times thirteen million people gives the total cost of his free advice to Negroes at $1,560,000,000.

3-23-44

A part of Mr. Babson's advice should most certainly be heeded. Other parts of it should be ignored. Everyone will agree with his advice that now is the time to save one's earnings and guard against the lean days that are certain to follow the war. But I cannot swallow the suggestion that Negroes are convincing

controlled. The Nation cannot buy clients 'Has the Negro's wage ex- and perience over the past ten years been satisfactory?" The answer is no. If the war ends tomorrow the wages Negroes will have received Mr. Babson that for the same work done by white not continue. Let workers will be lower than the question Mr. wages paid white workers. And

ANSWER IS NO

I agree with Mr. Babson, whose concern asks its potential

any Florida and other Southern South this fasting is going to be high wages cannot ditions of employment obtain in the

there is absolutely nothing the only means by which that la- us paraphrase the

Negroes know better than white workers that they will be the first to be discharged. 3-23-44

Mr. Babson is an honorable man. He tells Negroes that they are citizens as well as white workers. In name only, Mr. Babson. Twenty years in Florida should have demonstrated that fact. Mr. Babson tells Negroes that they should not refuse to work when they have a little money in their pocket; that white workers don't do that sort of thing. If only Mr. Babson had not said that last phrase. Has he heard of absenteeism in American war industries? Does Mr. Babson know that less than 12 per cent of our war workers are Negroes?

Mr. Babson says Negroes claim they are not treated right. He does not agree with them, he says. Mr. Babson is an honorable man. Yet, in the next few words he says that he has gotten Negroes out of jail when they have been unjustly arrested, that they are the first fired, but if it is true it is because "so many of you are lazy and wasteful." A little later he tells another one of the insipid "Eleanor Club" rumors—"Aunt Eleanor will take care of me." 3-23-44

CANNOT DO BETTER

He concludes his advice with "get all the work you can get. Work as faithfully as you can. Save. Save. Save.' This is good American advice. Let us go one step beyond that. Negro workers are not perfect. Many of them never will be perfect workers. This nation has not trained Negroes to be normal American workers. The few hundred thousands that have shown exceptional and even normal work attitudes and habits have gained that knowledge and character through blood, sweat and tears. The millions who are still in low paid jobs are there because they cannot do any better, the employers will not pay them any more, and because, the employer would have to pay much more to get efficient workers—white or colored. The whole fault is not with Negroes. Millions of them save, but many more millions have no earthly knowledge of nor reason for saving—and they know it. That part of the fault is in the stars, Mr. Babson, not in Negroes themselves. The nation, the South, white people, colored people, have to get off the backs of Negroes who have been kept poor, kept cheap, kept functionally illiterate in order that a few other hundred of us might be ambitious, might have savings, might make investments.

We speak not to disprove all that Mr. Babson has said. If Negroes he knows and employs are not ambitious, it is a grievous fault. He respects ambition and initiative. Not only did he make possible the education of Captain James Paul Goss, U. S. A., but years ago he took under his economic wing another young Negro and introduced him to the skills and techniques of his statistical service. Mr. Babson is a friend of the Negro. He has told us so. He has demonstrated it.

LOVING TOO WELL

But Mr. Babson, I fear, is loving Negroes not wisely but too well. His reason is becoming too colored with his emotions of fascism, paternalism, and with fears of a changing world order that will not let the old order rest. He sets mischief afloat when he limits his observations to the small segment of Negro life with which he has had contact, when he does not see that Negroes "have not been treated right," when he ties in Mrs. Roosevelt with what is fundamentally a problem of economic and social ploitation of the Negro in this country. We thank him for his gift. We do not like the petulance and unreason which he gave it.

AN OPEN LETTER

Atlanta, Georgia
March 22, 1944

Dear Mr. Babson: 3-23-44

I have just read with much interest your statement entitled—"Babson Advises Negroes Against Wasting Money" which appeared in The Birmingham News of March 19, 1944, in which you have labeled a race of people numbering some fourteen million in this United States as lazy, thriftless and inefficient, in contrast to whites who are typically industrious, thrifty, and efficient. There is not a line in your whole statement which even attempts to justify your extravagant accusations. Neither your position as a business forecaster, your alleged friendship for the Negro, your age, your pecuniary contributions, nor even your "good deeds" in bailing out Negroes, can justify such an obviously unscientific, unsympathetic blast of heated condemnation. Can it be true that you too are suffering from the loss of domestic servants?

My first acquaintance with your major contribution to American society, that of pioneering in the field of business forecasting, occurred in the fall of 1930 about one year after the great Crash of 1929. As a graduate student in Economics at Brown University, I examined with some admiration the great mass of compiled and presumably correlated statistical data which appeared on your then famous Batson charts. Such work as I detected in the examination of your publications demonstrated the meticulously detailed scientific research upon which was based your predictions as to the future course of business activity. Yet, Mr. Babson, if you will think back, you will remember that you did make some mistakes.

QUOTES FIGURES

Today it is incomprehensible to me that the man who wrote these completely unsupported findings in a field in which he is not recognized as an authority and generalized them for a whole race of people, and one who should well know the disastrous effects of lowered morale upon incentives to high productivity and its cost in terms of much needed war materials, could possibly be in fact the same man who built the Babson Charts.

While I know of no satisfactory index by which to prove or disprove your conclusions, I should like to make the observation that financial institutions owned by Negroes have shown continuous and uninterrupted growth throughout the present war. Since these cater almost solely to colored people, such growth is indicative. For an instance, Banking institutions owned and operated by Negroes held total resources as of the end of the years as follows: 1939 $6,497,000; 1940 $7,404,475; 1941 $8,636,543; 1942 $11,041,947.

For more complete information, I refer you to Mr. Emmer Martin Lancaster, Special Adviser to the Secretary of Commerce on Negro Affairs, U. S. Department of Commerce for data on the growth of Negro financial institutions. While it will hardly be possible to determine the total resources contributed by Negroes to white financial institutions, it is quite likely that a larger share of the per capita savings of Negroes go into these institutions than into similar ones operated by Negroes. 3-23-44

WOULD BE INTERESTED

It may be that you have derived a statistical index for the measurement of "thriftiness" as between races at a given moment of time. If so, would you do me the kindness of numerating the objective qualities considered and the weights assigned to each? I would be sincerely interested in such an effort and I can think of no person who is better equipped to delve into this important problem.

Regardless of whether you are friend or foe, well intentioned or malicious, or simply inadvertently and temporarily unscientific in your observations (which I think is the case), I challenge you to support your conclusions with facts gathered, organized and interpreted with full appreciation for the scientific method of analysis, which you know so well. If you cannot do this or will not do it, as a good American you should see to it that your statement is retracted or corrected (if you have been misquoted) with the comprehensiveness and fanfare with which your original statement was spread over the newspapers of the nation.

Respectfully yours,
John Hope II.

Daily World
Atlanta, Ga.

Roger Babson's Article Reprinted In Full Here

3-21-44

Editor's note: With the kind permission of The Atlanta Journal, The Atlanta Daily World reprints herewith Mr. Roger W. Babson's article, appearing in the March 19 issue of The Journal, admonishing Negroes to save against the dark days of the post-war world when unemployment and poverty will stalk the land.

Addressing a written message to the several million of colored people in this country, Mr. Babson, writing as he says "as a friend to the colored people," and as "one who has contributed money and time to help them," urged these black Americans to work, and save against the day when their opportunities for work will be few and their earnings will be gone. The article follows below in full:

By ROGER K. BABSON

BABSON PARK, Fla., March 18. I am writing to the several million of colored people in this country. Moreover, I do so as a friend—one who has contributed money and and time to help them.

The way you are foolishly spending money today is a shame and disgrace. Not only are most of you wasting money, but you are almost convincing your friends that you are unworthy to have good wages. You are showing an utter disregard of any knowledge of finances or economics.

Present high wages cannot continue. Many of you will be out of employment after the war. Millions of war workers will be discharged and—although it will be unjust — you will be discharged first. Therefore, you should save up money NOW to help you in these hard days ahead. Most white workers are now doing this.

Why So Lazy?

Some of you foolishly refuse to work if you have a little cash in your pockets. This applies to great strong men and women as well as to our young people. Too many of you seem to have no regard for the needs of the country in this crucial hour. You are citizens as well as the white workers. You claim you are not treated right. I do not agree to this; but if it is true, it is because so many of you are lazy and wasteful. 3-21-44

I am writing this in the South where I have worked with colored people for 20 winters. I have fought for you and got you out of jail when the sheriff unjustly arrested you. I know your good points and weak points; but I never before saw you in the lazy, wasteful and saucy moods that some of you put on today. From letters which I get, I fear you are behaving worse in the North than you are here in the South.

Don't Depend Upon Aunt Eleanor

Many of you say, "Aunt Eleanor will take care of me after the war." Perhaps Aunt Eleanor will not be the President's wife after the war! President Roosevelt may not be re-elected. Besides, even Mrs. Roosevelt is getting out of patience with you, She is beginning to wonder if she may not have made a mistake in praising you as she did. It is true that white workers, strike when they should not, but they are not lazy nor do they throw away money. 3-21-44

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James did so well that I brought him back to Florida in the fall. That winter he typed all my newspaper columns. In March, 1942, he was drafted. One day an officer asked if anyone of the men could type. James held up his hand. Then he was given his second opportunity. He has not held a gun since that day. He gradually worked into administrative duties. He became a corporal, a sergeant, a second, and then a first lieutenant. He now is a captain with savings of $5,000 in bank and life insurance values. When one of his colored friends was asked why James got on so well he replied: "Well, you know, James does not drink or smoke; he works and saves and reads his Bible every day." Last week, James was given his third opportunity at Camp Springs Army Air Field, Washington.

Jasper, Ala. Advertiser
The 13,000,000 Negroes in the United States had a combined income of $10,290,000,000 in 1943, or about $1,500,000,000 more than all the people in the Dominion of Canada, according to statement by David J. Sullivan, president of the Negro Market Organization in a speech last week before Negro Newspaper Publishers Association. 7-5-44

Still some people wonder why their cook doesn't show up.

37L-1944

Rape Suspect Foils Three Man Dixie Jury

People's Voice - New York, N.Y.
1-8-44

Special

The unusual story of a colored man jailed on charges of raping a white woman in Georgia came to light here this week, with the arrival in New York of Lonnie Johnson, the man who was sentenced to death by a three-man jury, won two stays of execution, and was finally freed after having been baptized for death in the execution chamber of a Savannah prison. A native of Hardeeville, SC, Johnson was arrested in Savannah on the rape charge and sentenced to die in the electric chair on January 8 of last year. Efforts to save his life, by the Savannah branch of the NAACP, were successful, his release was finally secured, the branch promptly spirited him away from the dangerous atmosphere of Georgia, and he has just arrived in NYC. 1-8-44

As Dr. Ralph Mark Gilbert president of the Savannah branch, informs *PV*, "Through the efforts of our branch he is at last a free man. You know that this is both unusual and represents a major victory. For a man of our race to be simply accused of this crime in the South generally means that he must die.

In NYC, Jackson has gotten in touch with the local branch of the NAACP, which is taking steps to assist him in rehabilitating himself.

Youth, 14, gets new rape trial

Tribune - Los Angeles, Calif.
7-8-44

SANTA FE, N. M. — Melvin Clarence Evans, 14, of Alamogordo, was released June 16 from the state penitentiary here on a writ of habeas corpus after he had been sentenced to 20-25 years in prison on a rape charge.

Evans' release was secured by attorneys engaged by the Albuquerque, New Mexico, branch NAACP. He was bound over to the district court in Alamogordo where he was placed under $3,000 bond. If the bond is not made, he will remain in jail until the next term of court, October 9, to await a jury trial. 7-8-44

Harry Robins and Melvin Rueckhaus, Albuquerque attorneys, contended that Evans was 13 years old when he was tried last Dec. 9 and that he waived constitutional rights although he was not mentally capable of making such a decision.

W. T. Scroggins, Jr., district attorney, said that constitutional rights were not mentioned to the youth and he was not told at any time that he had a right to a trial before a jury.

Nelson Street Girl Reports Attackers

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
8-17-44

A 16-year-old Nelson Street girl Wednesday charged criminal attack by two young men. In a statement to city police, the victim said each of the perpetrators held a knife on her while the other committed the crime on Ware School campus.

Start Testimony In Slaton Case

Daily World - Atlanta, Ga.
8-28-44

State witness in the trial of Robert B. Slaton, 20-year-old Atlantan of 28 Boulevard, SE, who is putting up a stiff fight for his life on charges of burglary and attempted rape upon an Atlanta white woman of DeKalb avenue, concluded their testimony early Tuesday morning in the Fulton Superior Court, with Judge Frank A. Hooper, Jr., on the bench. The trial began Monday morning.

Most of Monday was taken in the selection of a jury, which exhausted almost three full panels, followed by testimony of the alleged victim ,her husband, and several other state witnesses.

STATE ENDS PARADE

After the state had ended its long parade of witnesses Tuesday morning, counsel for the youthful defendent, who won a mistrial three weeks ago offered their long list of witnesses. Examining each witness, those who were offered as having been with Slaton during the time of the alleged crime, those who were used as alibi witnesses and character, was Mrs. Sara C. M. Tarbert, who is serving as defense counsel with former Superior Court Judge Hugh Howell of this county. 8-28-44

During Tuesday the defense offered as witnesses more than 20 persons in a procession which lasted practically all day.

At the end of the defense testimony today court attaches stated that the arguments by the state and defense before the jury would begin sometime this morning.

CREATES INTEREST

Slaton is charged in an indictment with gaining illegal entrance to the DeKalb avenue home of the woman, and making an attempt to criminally assault her after she discovered him in her home. This is said to have occurred on the night of Thursday 2?, 1944.

At the former hearing he denied strenously the charges from the stand in one of the most convincing statements ever made in the court, and when the jury failed to reach a verdict at that hearing, there being 10 for acquittal, and two for conviction. There was declared a mistrial 8-23-44

The trial has created much interest in the city The counsel for the defense and those for the state in the prosecution roles are staging a legal battle which also has drawn the interest of several hundreds interested spectators at each hearing.

Police Seeking Negro For Attacking Woman

News - Birmingham, Ala.
10-25-44

Police Wednesday were seeking a stocky built six-foot Negro for the criminal attack of a 35-year-old white woman near the North Birmingham Packing Company at 2031 21st Avenue, North, about 6:20 a.m.

The woman, on her way to work at the company, was followed by the Negro when she left the North Birmingham bus. According to her story to police, she was seized by the Negro, who stifled her screams by holding a hand over her face.

The Negro then dragged her across the Frisco railroad track and attacked her, she said. She was taken to Hillman Hospital in a police car, and from there to physician's office. She said the Negro was wearing dark trousers and a leather jacket.

Negroes Accused In Criminal Assault Get Venue Change

Advertiser - Montgomery, Ala.
8-25-44

QUINCY, FLA., Aug. 24.—(AP)—Gov. Spessard L. Holland said today three negroes charged with assaulting a white woman could not be brought here for trial without danger of "heavy bloodshed." 8-26-44

The trial, scheduled for today, was not started, and the case was transferred by Circuit Judge W May Walker to Gainesville, 175 miles away, for a later date.

The governor's statement was made to explain why the Gadsden County Circuit Court waited in session for more than six hours without the three defendants being produced by the state highway patrol, which had been assigned to transport them from the state prison at Raiford.

About 250 state militiamen, members of seven defense force units from as far away as Gainesville and Jacksonville, were on duty around the courthouse to prevent violence. There were no demonstrations at the courthouse.

Governor Holland said two cars of state highway patrolmen had been blockaded on the highway between Quincy and Tallahassee last night, and held there for an hour. The negroes were not in the party, and there was no harm to the patrolmen.

He said there were indications of a "very carefully laid plan" to take the negroes from the police and that leading residents of Quincy had thought it best to transfer the trial.

Highway Patrol Lieut. Olin Hill said one patrol car was stopped by a blockade of automobiles on the highway near Midway. When radio communication was lost with the car, the patrol headquarters sent another to investigate. It, too, was trapped in the blockade of automobiles occupied by armed men. 8-25-44

A third car later came near the blockade and a patrolman in charge obtained release of the other two, Hill said.

"As far as I know," Governor Holland reported, "none of the men in the blockade party was known. If any of them are known of course they will be prosecuted."

The governor said ample protection will be provided at the Gainesville trial.

Shortly after Judge Walker made his ruling, a big convoy of state guards and highway patrolmen left the Tallahassee jail with the defendants, presumably for the state prison at Raiford.

All during the day the Tallahassee jail was under heavy guard. At one time the jail was the scene of a conference on protective measures between the governor and high state militia officials.

Doubt Justice Was Served in New York Rape Sentence

Amsterdam News
New York, N.Y.

Group Asks Permission to See Court-Martial Record Of Condemned Serviceman

Opportunity to examine the court-martial record and file a brief on behalf of Joseph Ballou, young Negro soldier, sentenced for life last February for the alleged molestation of a white girl in Portsmouth, England, was requested in a wire to Gen. Eisenhower, by the NAACP September 20. 9-30-44

The unfortunate happening was revealed in a letter from a young Britisher whose husband prepared the appeal and was only partially successful in obtaining reduction of the original sentence to twenty years. Requesting the aid of the NAACP, the writer said:

"The arrest was made because a girl said she had been molested. There was no evidence to prove this, for at the trial neither the girl or the policeman recognized the young man. Yet he was sentenced for natural life, no doubt on account of his color.

"The people of Portsmouth, were horrified at the sentence, and suggested something be done. My husband prepared an appeal; I obtained 276 signatures, and could have gotten many more had I the time. The German bombers at that time were paying us some attention, and we were afraid the list might get destroyed, for some men wanted to take it into the Dockyard, and others to a factory.

"People in all walks of life talked about the injustice of the sentence.

"My husband, sent the appeal with an accompanying letter to the J. A. of E. T. O. who sent it on to the C. G. of S. B. S. From this address, we got no news. 9-30-44

"We are asking ourselves, why we stood up to the nights of terror 1940 and 1941 if it was not for freedom, justice and rights of all men?

"A white American sailor tried for murder, received a sentence of only ten years."

The NAACP legal department will file a brief in the case if the court martial record justifies such procedure.

4-8-44

WASHINGTON, D. C.- The court-martial conviction of two American soldiers for the rape of a 17-year-old New Caledonia native girl was upheld Saturday by Robert Patterson, Under-Secretary of War, who, however, ordered their life sentences reduced.

The men are Frank Fisher, Jr., of Texarkana, Tex., and Edward R. Lowry, of Louisville, Ky.

Patterson held that the prisoners had received a fair trial and that the findings were "legal and supported by the weight of evidence," but that "because of the facts and circumstances surrounding the commission of the offenses and the records of the prisoners," Fisher's sentence should be reduced to ten years and Lowry's to eight.

Patterson's review of the case reported that Fisher and Lowry "together with an unidentified and unapprehended soldier," raped the girl after they found her seated in a jeep with a lieutenant. The lieutenant, not otherwise identified in a statement, was deprived of his commission and discharged from the service "under conditions other than honorable." 4-8-44

Counsel for the two men argued that the girl consented to the act and that she was a prostitute, and that she was engaged in plying her trade at the time.

The five men attacked a WAC and her companion as they were en route to a dance. Severe criticism has been made of one soldier who, because of threats against him, made no attempt to save the girl from the five attackers.

The other cases are pending.

2 Rapists of WAC Are Sentenced

Afro-American
Baltimore, Md.
9-12-44

FORT BENNING, Ga.—Two of five soldiers accused of raping a WAC have been found guilty. One was sentenced to life and the other to twenty years. The

By United Press.

MURDER SUSPECT FACES ASSAULT CHARGE

MONTGOMERY, Oct. 1.—Worley James, Negro arrested in connection with the investigation of the slaying of Mrs. Lynn C. Drew, will face preliminary trial here tomorrow on another charge.

James, also known as James Hart, will be given a hearing on a charge of criminally attacking a Negro woman. Warrant in the case was signed by City Detective G. J. Ruppenthal.

No formal charges have been placed against the Negro in the Drew case, but police commissioner said James had signed a statement that he stabbed Mrs. Drew and left her nude body in a drainage ditch last June 15.

Fla. Negroes Get Execution Stay

The worker—New York

By EUGENE GORDON

Appeal for a new trial last week automatically gave a 60-day lease on life to James Davis, 16; Fred Lane, 19, and James Williams, 26, who had ben "tried" and convicted of "rape" by a Gainsville Fla., court on Aug. 31. 9-24-44

State Attorney General J. Tom Watson, sponsor of a Klan-Christian-American Association bill to illegalize the closed shop, has filed a motion to dismiss the defense appeal as "frivolous." The motion comes up for hearing Monday.

Gov. Spessard L. Holland declared himself at the beginning of the "trial" as opposed to a "lynching" because it would "stain" Florida's name.

After the trial he told the press that he would set the execution date as soon as he legally could. Watson immediately assured the Governor that the prisoners could be legally killed as soon as a complete record the "trial" as opposed to a "lynch-from the sheriff. 9-24-44

Receiving the record, the Governor set the execution date as Sept. 18. The youths' parents, meanwhile, in cooperation with the International Labor Defense and local unions, retained Bradford Williams, Lakeland, Fla., attorney, who filed a motion in the State Supreme Court for a "new trial."

If the motion is granted it will be the first step toward a genuine trial. The 80-minute performance did not allow time for the court-appointed attorneys to consult with the defendants. The courtroom was cleared even of witnesses when the alleged victim testified. Her name has never yet been revealed. She was prevented from being questioned by the defense.

The youths' new attorney, in his motion for a genuine trial, based his appeal on these and other equally shocking facts.

Rape Suspect Shot by Police In Depot Fight

Salisbury, Md., Nov. 13. (AP).—A Negro taxicab driver, shot in both legs while resisting arrest for questioning about the rape of a Philadelphia woman, has been turned over to Delaware police, State Police Corporal T. A. Short said today.

Corporal Short said Charles Polk, 38, of Millsboro, Del., was shot during a scuffle at the Salisbury railroad station when Short attempted to arrest him upon the complaint of a woman who came to visit her husband at Peninsula General Hospital.

Polk was taken to the Milford, Del., hospital.

The Philadelphia woman told State police she entered a taxicab at the Salisbury station Saturday night to be taken to the hospital, where her husband, a conscientious objector at the Powellsville, Md., camp, is a patient.

The Negro cab driver took her instead to a spot north of Delmar, in Delaware, and raped her, then returned her to Salisbury, the woman was quoted by Corporal Short.

The State policeman said Polk attempted to make a break from the Peninsula General Hospital after his arrest and was subdued by Chief Specialist Charles A. Thompson, a shore patrolman.

State police said Polk was being moved to Elkton, Md., for safekeeping when the decision was made to place him in the Milford, Del., hospital and turn the case over to Delaware State police.

Death Chair Is Given 'Attacker'

Daily World—Atlanta 11-10-44

On trial for robbery by force and assault with intent to rape part of Tuesday, all day Wednesday, and most of Thursday, Henry Hayes, charged with attacking a white woman in the Manford road and Pryor road section during late September, was sentenced to death in the electric chair at Reidsville after having been found guilty by a 12-man-all-white jury of the Fulton Superior Court. The verdict was returned after the jury had deliberated better than an hour Thursday afternoon.

Punishment was fixed by the jury and immediately Judge Edgar E. Pomeroy set the date of execution for the week of December 29. The case was one of the most unusual ever heard here, with almost ... witnesses being put on the stand by the state to prove that Hayes, after offering to aid the victim, whose car was stalled, drove away with her, took her pocketbook, beat her, and made an attempted criminal assault on the woman. Prosecuting was Assistant Solicitor Rubin Garland, who in his argument to the jury plead for the death chair penalty.

EXPERTS APPEAR

Appearing in court as witnesses for the state were the alleged victim, police officers who investigated, and experts in photography, and authorities on grease and sand who testified that the grease and sand taken from the dress worn by the victim at the time of the alleged assault, 11-10-44 and that taken from overalls worn by Hayes were identical, which proof was shown in a darkened courtroom through ultra-violet ray lights.

Counsel for the defense was Attorney M. C. Stow, who tried valiantly to save the life of his client during the hearing and during his closing argument to the jury.

Army Changes Its Decision On 'Rape Case'

Amsterdam News New York, N.Y.

Indicates Left-Handed Justice Handed Out in Caledonia 'Frame-up'

4-8-44

WASHINGTON, (NNPA) — The Army admitted last week, in a left-handed way, that injustice had been done Pvts. Frank Fisher Jr., and Edward R. Lowrey, who had been sentenced to life imprisonment for rape in New Caledonia, in what has come to be referred to as the Army's "Scottsboro" case.

After a review of the case by Undersecretary of War Robert Patterson, instigated by Judge William Hastie, former Civilian Aide to the Secretary of War, and Rep. Vito Marcantonio (ALP of N. Y.) the War Department announced that Mr. Patterson determined that the youths had a fair trial and that the sentences were supported by the evidence.

Reduces Sentences

But in the same determination, Mr. Patterson reduced the sentences from life imprisonment to 10 years for Fisher and 8 years for Lowry—"because of the circumstances surrounding the event and the record of the prisoners." 4-8-44

The entire case was challenged by Judge Hastie and Rep. Marcantonio in a brief submitted on behalf of the soldiers, which resulted in the review. They cited glaring loopholes and contradictions in the evidence and apparent suppression of favorable testimony. 4-8-44

The evidence developed at the trial revealed, according to the brief, that the alleged rape victim "consented to intercourse", "interposed no physical resistance", made no "verbal protests", and subsequently accepted payment on the spot from the soldiers.

Medical inquiry showed the girl was suffering from gonorrhea before she met Fisher and Lowry, according to the brief, but this information was withheld from the court-martial.

Name White Officer

The persecution of the youths was at the instance of a white officer, Lt. Robert L. Engels, who according to the brief had had relations with the woman earlier the same evening. Lt. Engels testified the soldiers drew a "45" on him and threatened him. The boys denied this, and said the officer aided them in making arrangements with the woman.

Lt. Engels since has been discharged from the Army "for reasons other than honorable." Legal counsel, says the brief, was not made available to the soldiers until the day before their trial.

White Jury Disagrees In Atlanta Rape Case

Call—Kansas City, Mo. 4

ATLANTA.—(ANP) An all-white jury in Fulton superior court here Wednesday was unable to reach a verdict in the case of 22-year-old L. L. Clarke, accused of criminally assaulting a white woman.

State's witnesses had testified that Clarke performed the attack while holding off a soldier companion of the woman with a knife. Three of the jurors, it was disclosed stood firm for conviction and the death penalty, while nine, arguing for acquittal, contended that it would have been physically impossible for Clarke to have perpetrated the offense under the circumstances outlined by state witnesses. 3-17-44

Judge Paul S. Etheridge ordered a mistrial and Clarke was given his release under heavy bond

Man Convicted On Charge Of Rape

Amsterdam News—New York, N.Y. 5-13-44

JAMES THOMAS, Connecticut war worker, who was convicted on a charge of rape and sentenced to from two to five years in prison, is shown here with his wife and young son. Another rape charge in Connecticut involving a white woman and a Negro, it will be recalled, was the Spell-Strubin case, in which the man, a servant in the Strubin home was later proved innocent of any criminal charge.

NAACP Branch Aids Connecticut War Worker; Reported Calm and Unruffled When Arrested

New York News 5-13-44

By VICKIE THOMPSON

NEW HAVEN, Conn.—(Special)—The local branch of the NAACP this week sent a report on the rape conviction of James Thomas, 23, to the New York office for review preparatory to filing an appeal from a sentence of from two to five years imposed on the defendant in Superior Court here a week ago.

Thomas, married and father of a young son, was arrested and charged with having attacked a young white woman, who identified herself as Theresa Baldore, shortly after which he went to the movies. after midnight of February 19.

Police who picked up Thomas and took him to the station house where he was confronted by the woman, are reported to have said the man was calm and unruffled at the time and did not have the appearance of one who had just committed the crime of rape. They are said also to have stated that the girl had no marks of violence and that her clothes were not the least bit disarranged.

Thomas' Alibi

Thomas told a likely story. He said he had spent part of the evening with his parents in Ansonia, before learning of her distress, and upon learning of her distress, took her in his car to the police station. He told the police he did not see

Didn't See Thomas

A white man, whom the woman said was a friend of hers, happened to be passing about the time, and picked up Thomas as saying. She said the man then proceeded to put one hand over her mouth and the other around her throat. She accused him of attempting to put her coat.

About a half hour later a cruising police car picked up Thomas about a half block from the scene of the crime, still trying to ride to New Haven. He was questioned the officers about his arrest, inquiring what he was picked up for. At the station the woman positively identified him as her assailant.

"If you don't give me what I want, I'll kill you," she quoted Thomas as saying. 5-13-44

"What do you want," she said she asked.

Cuba

Cuba--A Nation Baptized In Sweat And Blood.....

Journal & Guide

The Negro In Latin America

Norfolk, Va.

By Harold Preece

1-22-44

CUBA—baptized as a nation in the blood and sweat of the black man — is the answer that the world has seen to the question which has been raised by an important Negro newspaper:

Should the Negro sit in the councils of the world's statesmen to draw up plans for a lasting peace once the peoples of all colors have finished the job of wiping out Hitler and Hirohito?

"We have a Negro president, Fulgencio Batista," the colored bus driver who carries you down the broad boulevards of Havana would answer. "He's not perfect, but he could give the peace conference a lot of good ideas about helping everyday plain people get an equal chance in the world — whether they are white or black."

"ALL CUBANS ARE EQUAL BEFORE THE LAW"

One of Cuba's scholarly Negro congressmen would say about the same thing as the bus driver except that he might say it in bigger words. He would tell you about Juan Gualberta Gomez, the Negro Cuban who was the Frederick Douglass of his country, and then he would read to you a passage from the ringing declaration made by the Cuban Constitent Assembly in 1940:

"All Cubans are equal before the law. The Republic recognizes no privileges. All discrimination because of sex, race, color, or class, or other affront to human dignity is declared illegal and punishable."

If you were an American who came to Havana to do something else besides get drunk at the mammoth bar run by a white man called Sloppy Joe, you might be invited to a soiree in a Cuban home. It would be the kind of a party that you wouldn't find in the United States outside of Harlem or Chicago's South Parkway.

WHITE, BROWN AND MULATTO INTELLECTUALS

You would rub shoulders with intellectuals who were white, brown, and mulatto for at least one-third of Cuba's almost five million population has Negro blood in varying degrees. You might meet at the party, if he were not busy hammering out cantos, Cuba's leading poet, Nicolas Guillen, whom our State Department bars from this country along with another distinguished Negro champion of human rights, the Havana labor leader, Lazaro Pena.

Before the evening was over, some beautiful girl descended from an ancient queen in Nigeria or Dahomey would sit down at the piano and play a composition by Brindis de Salas, that internationally famous musician of the Nineteenth Century who was known as "the black Paganini" and "the king of the octaves." And if she were not out on a concert tour, you might be lucky enough to hear Zoila Galvez, the Marian Anderson of Cuba," sing an aria from some great opera.

Africa struck deep roots wherever Africa was transplanted to the New World. Africa struck its deepest roots in Brazil, and in Cuba—our closest neighbor among the 21 Latin American Republics.

CUBA VS. AMERICA'S SOUTHLAND 1-22-44

Cuba lies a few miles across the Atlantic from Dixie: from the Florida coast where a Negro can't stop into a public restaurant for a cup of coffee. Some circles in Dixie are still arguing over the question of whether the Negro is a human being or a special kind of animal created especially to serve the lordly white.

But just across the water, Cuba's leading scholars of both colors are busy glorifying that country's culture, which is Negro. Stimulated by this war for the liberation of all peoples and their cultures, a great Negro renaissance is sweeping across the West Indies and Latin America. That renaissance comes from Cuba where black slaves planted the culture of Africa in the same soil where they planted the sugar and tobacco for the alien, haughty white men.

A white American scholar, Dr. Richard Pattee, pointed out in his article, "Latin-America Turns To the Negro," published in a 1936 issue of The Crisis:

WAVE OF ENTHUSIASM FOR THINGS NEGRO

"There has developed in Cuba a literal wave of enthusiasm for things Negro. Outstanding among the Cuba intellectuals who have contributed extraordinarily to the revaluation of the Negro influence is Dr. Fernando Ortiz, of La Habana, a distinguished man of letters and a lawyer, whose name rests in large part on his scholarly labors in the field of Afro-Cuban folklore, music, and superstition—

"This incidentally has assumed a first importance in the Negro renaissance in the West Indies. A whole genre has been created around the Negro; a school of poetical expression that has long since transcended the frontiers of the island. (Meaning Cuba). The Negro theme has given rise to the new appreciation of the potential role that the African element can play in the molding of — culture."

FOUNDED SOCIETY OF AFRO-CUBAN STUDIES

Dr. Ortiz, whom Dr. Pattee mentions, founded the Society of Afro-Cuban Studies, an organization of Negro and white intellectuals which ranks as one of the most important learned societies in this hemisphere of republics learning finally to be good neighbors. 1-22-44

A modest friendly man who hates Jim Crow. Dr. Ortiz has, himself, written several volumes on different phases of the African influence in Cuba. He has a profound admiration for the Negro poet, Placido, who back in 1844, sounded the call for revolt against the tyranny of Spain.

Mass Jailing Of Men Minus Trial Rapped

Sheriff Mops Up Streets Of All Negroes

By JOE FELMET
Field Investigator, Workers Defense League

NEW YORK CITY — (SNS) — A Workers Defense League investigation in Fort Lauderdale and other parts of Broward county, Florida, 28 miles north of Miami, revealed the false arrests of approximately 45 Negro laborers on alleged charges of vagrancy and imposition without trials of fines ranging from $20 to $35.

The mass arrests followed an enforced labor decree by Sheriff Walter Clark last September under which persons found idle on the city streets were subject to arrest. About half of the arrested Negroes were members of Local 1526, International Longshoremen's Association (AFL), employed regularly at Port Everglades, a commerical harbor on the waterfront at Fort Lauderdale, and all the WDL investigation showed, possessed means of support. The Negroes obtained release from the county jail after paying fines arbitrarily imposed by the sheriff's office ,without their ever appearing before a judge or having an attorney to defend them.

WANTED BEANS PICKED

Fourteen men and women were arrested on February 9, 1944, when they refused to pick beans on the farm of Mayor Dewey Hawkins of Oakland Park, nine miles north of Fort Lauderdale, after they determined that the beans had been picked twice before and were not abundant enough to make the work profitable to them. In the second case which the WDL investigated, approximately 35 men were arrested on March 24 and 25, 1944, in the Negro business district of Fort Lauderdale during their hours off from work.

Three passenger carloads totalling approximately 20 Negro men, were jailed as a result of a round-up in the Negro business district of Fort Lauderdale on Saturday, March 25. Two of the arrested men interviewed during the WDL investigation, were members of Local 1526, International Longshoremen's Association (AFL) who were off duty from work at the time of their arrests.

The 20 Negroes were lodged in the county jail and charges of vagrancy were placed against them.

Clark told one of the longshoremen that he would be released on payment of "court costs" of $19.85 and permitted to go to Port Everglades to collect his wages. The longshoreman returned, paid $19.85 to County Jailer A. D. Marshall, and has in his possession a receipt, signed by Marshall, noted "court costs."

The second longshoreman and the farm helper were released on payment of fines of $35 each, but without having received sentences.

Both longshoremen returned to their jobs at Fort Everglades the following Sunday and Monday, March 26 and 27.

Seven Negro men were picked up in the Negro business district of Fort Lauderdale on Friday, March 24, about 11 a. m. by a Broward county deputy sheriff and charged with vagrancy. Two of the men ,who were interviewed by the WDL investigator, worked regularly at night at Port Everglades. They were in the Negro business district of Fort Lauderdale during their hours off duty, when the deputy sheriff arrested them in spite of their explanation that they held regular jobs. Each of the longshoremen was fined $35 after they had been lodged in the county jail. Neither of them received a trial before they paid their fines.

The Workers League is now examining the legal aspects of the case, preparatory to taking action against the Broward County official involved.